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January 17, 2003

After 30 years of abortion, pro-lifers insist: Women deserve better

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Cathy Cleaver was in grade school when the U.S. Supreme Court overturned most state restrictions on abortion in its Jan. 22, 1973, twin decisions—*Roe vs. Wade* and *Doe vs. Bolton*.

But if the experiences of her generation have taught her anything, it's that women deserve better than the "choice" abortion offers them.

As the director of planning and information for the U.S. bishops' Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities looked back over 30 years of legal abortion in the United States, she said the more than 40 million abortions since 1973 are "not a measure of our society's success in meeting the needs of women, but of its failure."

"According to statistics provided by abortion advocates themselves, the vast majority of women who 'choose' abortion do so precisely because they believed they had no other real choice," said Cleaver. "The reasons women most often cite for their abortions are a lack of financial resources and emotional support."

"Women Deserve Better" also is the theme of an ad campaign in the Washington area on subway trains, buses and commuter trains and in the print media during January. The campaign is co-sponsored by the bishops' pro-life secretariat and the Knights of Columbus. See LIFE, page 2



Inside

Archbishop Buechlein 4, 5

Question Corner 11

Sunday & Daily Readings....11

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A counselor talks with a mother-to-be about the birthing process at a crisis pregnancy center in Everett, Wash., in this undated file photo. The 30th anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court Roe vs. Wade decision that legalized abortion throughout the country will be marked on Jan. 22. In a statement issued for the occasion, U.S. Catholic bishops asked that people continue to defend life at every stage.

New St. Agnes church in Brown County to be ready for worship in the fall

By Mary Ann Wyand

NASHVILLE—A new chapter in the history of St. Agnes Parish in Nashville begins this fall when the 310-household faith community moves into a much larger church that will accommodate parishioners and Catholic tourists visiting scenic Brown County.

It is fitting that the parish is moving from the small log chapel and social hall on Highway 135 into a new wood and stone church at the intersection of Helmsburg and McLary Roads during the height of the tourism season because the parish's longtime mission of hospitality created the need for more worship space.

The Brown County Presbyterian Fellowship, a 60-member Protestant congregation, purchased the original St. Agnes property on 2.7 acres from the Archdiocese of Indianapolis for \$490,000 on Oct. 17, so the chapel will continue to be a sacred worship space.

Until this fall, both faith communities will share the chapel and social hall by alternating worship times. St. Agnes Parish currently offers Masses at 5 p.m. on Saturday and at 7:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. on Sunday.

Founded in 1940 with six families, St. Agnes Parish outgrew its 100-seat church and newer 170-seat social hall years ago because of the popularity of this part of southern Indiana. Throughout the year, more than 2 million visitors travel to Brown County to experience the beauty of nature in the wooded hills and shop at the spe-See CHURCH, page 8





Pope says military strikes against Iraq should be 'very last option'

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—Pope John Paul II spoke out against a possible war against Iraq, telling Vatican-accredited diplomats that military force always must be "the very last option," even when motivated by legitimate concerns.

In an annual "state of the world" address on Jan. 13, the pope said the future of humanity depends partly on the Earth's peoples and their leaders having the courage to say "no to war."

"War is not always inevitable. It is always a defeat for humanity," he said.

"And what are we to say of the threat of a war which could strike the people of Iraq, the land of the prophets, a people already sorely tried by more than 12 years of embargo?" he said.

"War is never just another means that one can choose to employ for settling differences between nations," he said.

The pope said the U.N. charter and international law "remind us war cannot be decided upon, even when it is a matter of ensuring the common good, except as the last option and in accordance with very strict conditions, without ignoring the consequences for the civilian population both during and after the military options."

The pontiff's words, which came as the United States accelerated its military buildup in the Persian Gulf region within striking range of Iraq, were his strongest See WAR, page 2

This architectural rendering shows the new St. Agnes Church in Nashville, which is being built at the intersection of Helmsburg and McLary Roads about a mile from the original parish location on Highway 135. Founded in 1940, St. Agnes Parish outgrew the original log chapel and newer social hall years ago.

Kentucky bill would end priest-penitent privilege for child abusers

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (CNS)—A bill that challenges the sacramental seal of confession in the Catholic Church was filed in the Kentucky House of Representatives as it opened its 2003 session on Jan. 7.

The proposal seeks to amend the clergy-penitent privilege to say that the "privilege shall not extend to any communication relating to the neglect or abuse of a minor child."

The clergy-penitent privilege, somewhat comparable to the attorney-client privilege, currently allows clergy to refuse to disclose any information communicated to them while they are acting in the role of spiritual adviser or confessor. The bill, sponsored by Rep. Susan Westrom of Lexington, would require all members of the clergy—"minister, priest, rabbi, Christian Science practitioner or other similar functionary of a religious organization"—to report information disclosed to them under any circumstances if it relates to the abuse or neglect of a minor.

The Catholic Conference of Kentucky, public policy arm of the state's bishops, said it will oppose the bill.

The proposal would also amend the state's child abuse and neglect reporting law, which currently requires all people to report information regarding child abuse or neglect except when that information is learned by an attorney from a client or by a member of the clergy from a penitent.

The bill would strike the clergy-penitent privilege from that law while leaving the attorney-client privilege intact.

Westrom, a therapist who has worked with sexually abused children, said she is thankful the reporting law requires her to disclose any knowledge she has of abuse or neglect.

"People today are very well-aware of the consequences of this violence [against children]," she said. "That's a tremendous burden for the clergy to deal with, to feel

See CONFESSION, page 8



In "A Matter of the Heart," their statement marking the 30th anniversary of *Roe vs. Wade*, the U.S. bishops said legal abortion "promised what it could not give," when its supporters in 1973 said it would bring an end to poverty and abuse.

"It promised women a freedom to participate more fully in society, but it took their children and broke their hearts," they said. "Many contemplating abortion believe they have no other choice."

In the January issue of *Life Issues Forum*, a publication of the pro-life secretariat, Cleaver described the legalization of abortion as "a social experiment using the lives of women and children as its primary subjects.

"The reality is that women turn to abortion because they feel alone and helpless, or abandoned, or pressured by boyfriends or family members," she added. "Abortion is not the act of empowerment it was promised to be."

In addition to being the 30th anniversary of *Roe vs. Wade*, 2003 marks the first year that U.S. Catholic dioceses are obliged to observe Jan. 22 liturgically as a "day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion, and of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life."

Celebrants of all Masses that day are to wear violet vestments, according to changes to the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* approved by the bishops in November 2001 and ratified by the Vatican in February 2002.

As in other years, much of the pro-life activity on Jan. 22 will focus on the March for Life, which aims to influence Congress and the president about the size and determination of the movement to overturn *Roe vs. Wade*.

But in 2003, pro-lifers will find a decidedly more rosy picture in Washington, after the 2002 elections brought in new pro-life members of the House and Senate and removed from Senate leadership Democratic Sen. Tom Daschle of South Dakota—a major roadblock last year to efforts to bring pro-life legislation to the Senate floor.

The new Senate majority leader, Republican Sen. Bill Frist of Tennessee, said in a 1998 letter to constituents, "As a physician, my professional ethics are grounded in preserving life, and I am opposed to abortion."

President Bush has promised to sign legislation banning partial-birth abortions—twice passed by the House but kept from a vote in the Senate. Bush also has indicated his support for bills that would punish those who kill or injure unborn children in attacks on pregnant women, make it a federal crime to take a minor out of state to circumvent the state's laws requiring parental notification before an abortion, and allow health care providers and institutions to refuse to perform, pay for or counsel for abortion on grounds of conscience.

Douglas Johnson, legislative director for the National Right to Life Committee, said he expected "a number of these bills" to receive consideration in both houses of Congress. "It won't happen all at once,



Young people carrying the March for Life banner lead thousands down Constitution Avenue in Washington in 2000. "Each year on Jan. 22—the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision in *Roe vs. Wade*—people pause to recognize the date in some way. Some speak out, some march, some reach out, some educate, some just reflect. Many pray," said the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in a message issued to mark the 30th anniversary of the ruling that legalized abortion.

but bills will be taken up at the appropriate times during the course of the Congress."

Bush has signaled his own willingness to take up the pro-life cause with a Jan. 7 decision to resubmit to the Senate the nominations of Charles Pickering of Mississippi and Priscilla Owen of Texas as candidates for federal appeals court judge. Both were rejected by the Senate Judiciary Committee last year in part because of their pro-life views.

lennium has humanity felt how precarious is the world which it has shaped," he said. "Yet everything can change," he added.

"It depends on each of us."

He listed certain "requirements" that must be met "if entire peoples, perhaps even humanity itself, are not to sink into the abyss."

First among them was a "yes to life," particularly on the part of legislators.

"Abortion, euthanasia, human cloning, for example, risk reducing the human person to a mere object: life and death to order, as it were," he said.

Second, he called for respect for law, especially international agreements; he said such respect was the foundation of national and international stability.

"The world would be totally different if people began to apply in a straightforward manner the agreements already signed," he said.

Lastly, the pope said solidarity must be seen as a duty and called for an end to selfishness, "that is to say, to all that impels man to protect himself inside the cocoon of a privileged social class or a cultural comfort that excludes others."

"The lifestyle of the prosperous, their patterns of consumption, must be reviewed in the light of their repercussions on other countries," he said.

Sounding a note of optimism, the pope

Perhaps the most cheering words for pro-lifers in 2003 come from Kate Michelman, president of the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League, which on Jan. 1 changed its name to Naral Pro Choice America.

"We have never had an environment as hostile as this since *Roe vs. Wade* was decided by the Supreme Court 30 years ago," she said. "This could really result in more losses than we have experienced in the past." †

war continued from page 1

and most direct to date on the potential

Iraqi conflict. In December, he made a general appeal to the world to "extinguish the ominous smoldering of a conflict."

In recent weeks, a growing chorus of Vatican officials has warned against resolving the Iraqi disarmament problem through war, pointedly rejecting the notion of a "preventative war" in the case of Iraq, which the United States suspects of harboring weapons of mass destruction.



Pope John Paul II addresses Vatican-accredited diplomats from some 175 countries on Jan. 13 at the Vatican. In the "state of the world"

In his speech to diplomats, the pope also for the first time personally denounced Russia's expulsions last year of a bishop and other Catholic clergy, which he said were "a cause of great suffering for me.

"The Holy See expects from government authorities concrete decisions which will put an end to this crisis, and which are in keeping with the international agreements subscribed to by the modern and democratic Russia," he said.

Turning to the Middle East, the pope deplored the "constant degeneration of the crisis" and said Israelis and Palestinians are called "to live side-by-side, equally free and sovereign, in mutual respect."

"The solution will never be imposed by recourse to terrorism or armed conflict, as if military victories could be the solution," he said.

Reviewing the world situation at the start of 2003, the pope said he had been "personally struck by the feeling of fear which often dwells in the hearts of our contemporaries."

He cited the threat of "insidious terrorism capable of striking at any time and anywhere," war in the Middle East and the threat of war in Iraq, social turmoil in South America, famine and conflicts in Africa, the spread of fatal diseases, and "the irresponsible behavior the past." † including progress toward peace and reconstruction in the African countries of Angola, Burundi and Sudan. He condemned the start of conflicts in Ivory Coast and the Central African Republic, and appealed to the combatants to lay

down their weapons and work for peace. Another success story, the pope said, was today's "united and enlarged" Europe now that the continent "has succeeded in tearing down the walls which disfigured her."

He repeated his appeal to European leaders to ensure that the European Union's future constitution includes recognition for religious freedom, "also in its social and corporative dimensions"; structures for dialogue between governing bodies and communities of believers; and respect for the juridical status already enjoyed by religious groups.

The pope said world leaders must recognize that the independence of states "can no longer be understood apart from the concept of interdependence."

"All states are interconnected both for better and for worse," he said.

In this regard, the pope said, two conditions must be met "if we are to avoid descending into chaos"—rediscovery of the "paramount value" of "natural law" as the source of inspiration for civil and international law and professionally competent politicians who are honest, selfless and have strong moral convictions. †

address, the pontiff said the future of humanity depends partly on people and their leaders having the courage to say "no to war." contributing to the depletion of the planet's resources."

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"Never as at the beginning of this mil-

cited several examples of recent success pe stories built on trust and cooperation, an

Vatican says 25 Church workers killed in mission territories in 2002

VATICAN CITY (CNS)—At least 25 priests, religious and lay missionaries including 10 in Colombia—were killed in mission territories during 2002, said Fides, the Vatican's missionary news agency.

Most of the killings took place in Latin America, where 13 Church workers died, and in Africa, which counted 10. In Asia, a Chaldean Catholic nun was killed in August in Baghdad, Iraq.

The annual "martyrology," released on Jan. 2, includes the first indigenous priest of the Solomon Islands in the South Pacific. Father Augustin Geve was killed in August during an attempt to mediate peace in Guadalcanal.

Colombia, where Church leaders have been targeted by guerrillas and drug lords,

led the list of martyrs with one bishop, seven priests, one nun and one seminarian.

Among the others on the list, Fides identified three as victims of violent robberies. They included an Irish Salesian priest in Johannesburg, South Africa, where he worked among the poor; an Angolan seminarian; and a Uruguayan Focolare movement lay missionary killed in Brazil.

The list covers not just missionaries in the strict sense but also Church workers "killed in a violent way or who sacrificed their lives knowing the risk they were running and yet did not abandon that which was entrusted to them," Fides said.

"They are 'martyrs of charity,' according to the expression of Pope John Paul II," it said. †

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St. Vincent opens new children's hospital

By Mary Ann Wyand

Bright colors and whimsical decorations welcome youngsters to the new St. Vincent Children's Hospital at 2001 W. 86th St. in Indianapolis.

The \$24 million pediatric health care facility opened on Jan. 14 and will provide a broad range of medical services for newborn babies through 18-year-olds.

The 72-bed children's hospital includes a 15-bed pediatric intensive care unit, a 17-bed pediatric emergency department, a children's heart center, a pediatric rehabilitation center, a neuroscience institute and a center for treatment of children with cancer and blood diseases.

During the ribbon-cutting ceremony on Jan. 9, Vincent Caponi, chief executive officer of St. Vincent Health, praised the dedicated doctors and nurses who will provide pediatric medical services in the new state-of-the-art children's wing attached to the main hospital.

More than 80 pediatricians and 50 pediatric specialists will treat patients with common childhood conditions as well as acute medical problems.

Caponi introduced Dr. Harry Laws, a former senior clinical research physician with Eli Lilly and Co. in Indianapolis, as the new administrator. Laws will be responsible for both administrative and medical operations at the children's hospital.

"As we open our doors to the community, it is my great honor to accept stewardship of St. Vincent Children's Hospital," Laws said. "I'm delighted to work with you and continue to realize the dream that has become St. Vincent Children's Hospital."

Reflecting on the founding of St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis by the Daughters of Charity in 1881, Laws said the sisters proclaimed, "We have a mission, a reason for being here, to keep health care human.... The poor will come and the rich will come if they know they will be treated as human beings."

Laws promised to "always serve the best interests of the physicians, associates, children and families who come through these doors.

"Combining our existing [pediatric] services into this wonderful building will greatly help us treat those who have entrusted us with their care," he said. "I am very pleased to accept a responsible part in that process. The staff and I are thankful for the vision that led to this building, and are appreciative of those whose will and determination have resulted in St. Vincent Children's Hospital. It's a wonderful pediatric home where we can provide extraordinary care."

Colorful walls, floors, toys and play areas throughout the hospital welcome children and are intended to make them feel comfortable during examinations and treatments. Rooms are private and feature overnight accommodations for parents.

Children selected the icons used to decorate the hospital, which include a gear, handprint, swirling circle and star. There are several indoor play areas and an outdoor play space on the rooftop.

Architectural elements designed by Karlsberger Healthcare Group of Ohio include a four-story atrium, an interactive waterfall feature on a lobby wall and windows in every patient room. A simulated slide descends from the building's roof, and a gear-shaped staircase and shimmering circles decorate an exterior wall.

"This building allows us to deliver a broad scope of services in pediatric care to our patients in a non-threatening environment," Laws said. "From the moment children arrive at the hospital and see the exciting components of the exterior to their **See HOSPITAL**, page 13



The new St. Vincent Children's Hospital opened on Jan. 14 at 2001 W. 86th St. in Indianapolis.



Dr. Harry Laws, administrator of the new St. Vincent's Children's Hospital, (right) addresses the gathering during the Jan. 9 ribbon-cutting ceremony. Daughter of Charity Sister Sharon Richardt, vice president of mission services, and Vincent Caponi, chief executive officer of St. Vincent Health, also spoke during the ceremony.

St. Francis Xavier Home Mission Fund applications ar e due Jan. 31

By Brandon A. Evans

Parishes in the archdiocese have until Jan. 31 to apply for available funds from the St. Francis Xavier Home Mission Fund.

The money to be awarded—about \$77,000—has its source in the United Catholic Appeal and is intended for any parish that has a need for it. This allocation is especially intended for those parishes or schools that have had an unexpected or minor expense.

Each parish in the archdiocese has a specific goal for the United Catholic Appeal based on the amounts of money they receive from Sunday and holy day collections. Whenever a parish goes over its United Catholic Appeal goal, the parish can choose to direct some or all of the additional money raised to the St. Francis Xavier Home Mission Fund. The money in the fund is then given to

parishes in need twice each fiscal year. The first allocation, made last summer, awarded \$309,000 to 10 parishes and two

schools.St. Peter Parish in Brookville received\$5,000 to help parents in the parish pay tuition for their children to attend neighboring Catholic grade schools.

St. Mary Parish in Indianapolis received \$20,000 to continue to develop and maintain its Hispanic ministry, while Holy Cross Central School in Indianapolis was awarded a \$45,000 grant for operational costs.

This first allocation is much larger than the second, which will happen in February, because it is meant to deal with larger problems that are budgeted into a parish's finances. The upcoming allocation will be split among however many parishes and schools are deemed to be truly in need, and the amounts given out will depend on that need.

Last year, 10 grants were awarded, totaling about \$60,000, with most of them for about \$5,000 and a few a little higher. The money was requested for a variety of needs, including financial assistance due to a drop in school enrollment and the purchase of a new copying machine.

One way for the archdiocese to begin to address the needs of certain parishes and schools is through grant applications for financial assistance from the St. Francis Xavier Home Mission Fund.

The application describes a parish's needs in simple terms and can be either mailed or completed by e-mail. This application is due by the end of the month. The allocations committee, chaired by Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, vicar general, and made up of the pastors from parishes that gave the most money in each deanery to the home mission fund, reviews the applications from parishes and schools to determine need.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein has said that the home missions, which cannot support themselves, require the financial help of everyone in the archdiocese. He said these parishes and schools are places of ministry that are needed where they are.

(For more information on how to receive an application for parishes or schools requesting money from the St. Francis Xavier Home Mission Fund, call Bonnie Vollmer at 800-382-9836, ext. 1410, or e-mail <u>bvollmer@archindy.org.</u>) †

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Editorial

Modern-day martyrs

"The more of us you kill, the more we are. The blood of Christians is seed." ("Plures efficimur quotiens metimur a vobis; semen est sanguis Christianorum.")

So wrote the great Church Father Tertullian in A.D. 197 in one of his major works, *Apologeticum*, a defense of the Christian faith against the unreasonable criticism of unbelievers.

Tertullian was speaking of the persecutions by the Romans and points out to his intended audience, the provincial governors of the Roman Empire, that the murder of Christians only enhances their witness to the love and lordship of Jesus Christ, and, through the authenticity of that witness, more people are drawn to belief in the Christian Way.

Two millennia later, the Church continues to see the blood of its martyrs soaking into the ground around the world, enriching the soil, as it were, in order to bring forth new life, as unbelievers experience conversion to Jesus Christ.

Fides, the news agency of the Vatican's Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, reports that last year 25 Catholic missionaries—an archbishop, priests, religious and laity offered the supreme witness of their faith—as they were assassinated, tortured to death or killed outright. And there were fewer deaths last year than in at least the last seven years. For example, in 1997, 68 deaths were tallied; in 1996, 48; in 1998, 40.

According to Fides, during the decade 1990-2000, 604 (including 248 victims of genocide in Rwanda in 1994) missionaries died. In 2002, the 25 missioners who lost their lives included one

archbishop, 18 priests, two religious sisters, one religious brother, two seminarians and one lay man. Nine of the deaths occurred in Colombia; the others, in Uganda, Congo, Argentina, Madagascar, Brazil, Panama, Cameroon, Burundi, Iraq, Guadalcanal, Angola, South Africa, Nigeria and the Central African Republic.

Christianity as lived in the United States can be remarkably comfortable. Often, membership in the Church is not much different than membership in any other organization the Rotary, the Lions, the Tuesday Night Bridge Club, or the Southtown Neighbors Gourmet Club. There's nothing wrong with those groups, but membership in the Church ought to demand much more of us. In many ways, we can thank God that we live in a country and a time when it is safe to be a Christian. But let's beware of the complacency our situation can encourage.

We are not often asked to join Jesus on the cross and literally give up our lives because of our belief in him. But many brothers and sisters in this world are asked to do just that. Let's keep them in our prayers, especially the 50 or so missioners with a special connection to our own archdiocese.

And before we begin to feel too comfortable and safe here in the United States, we should also keep in mind that it is not completely beyond the realm of possibility that some day either here or abroad—you or I might also be called upon to give our lives for the love of Christ. Will we be willing to do so? Will we be able? Let us pray to God that we, too, might be seed for the Church. †

— William R. Bruns

Seeking the Face of the Lord

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B.



Praying the rosary

ecently, someone sent me a touching photograph of Pope John Paul II taken at the end of his August 2002 visit to his Polish homeland. The photo shows an emotional Holy Father wiping away a tear just as he was to board his flight from Krakow to Rome.

I thought of the photo when I read the statement that he made at an audience on the 24th anniversary of his election: "During my recent trip to Poland, I prayed to Our Lady: 'Most Holy Mother, ... obtain also for me strength in body and spirit, so that I may carry out to the end the mission given me by the Risen Lord. To you I give back all the fruits of my life and my ministry; to you I entrust the future of the Church ... in you do I trust and once more to you I declare: Totus tuus, Maria! Totus tuus. (Totally yours, Mary! Totally yours!) Amen.' " (You may recognize the latter words as the papal motto chosen by John Paul II on the day of his election.)

The Holy Father continued, "Today I repeat the same words giving thanks to God for the 24 years of my service to the Church in the Chair of Peter. On this special day, I entrust anew into the hands of the Mother of God the life of the Church and that so sorely tried of humanity. To her I entrust my future. I put everything in her hands so that with a Mother's love she may present it to her Son, 'for the praise of his glory' (Eph 1, 12)" (Osservatore Romano, 43 – 23 October 2002).

The pope noted that at the beginning of this new millennium when he invited believers to contemplate unceasingly the face of Christ, "I desired that for everyone the teacher of such contemplation be Mary his Mother" contained in the simplicity of this prayer, so much loved by popular tradition. This Marian prayer in its structure is in effect above all meditation on the mysteries of the life of Christ. Repeating the invocation of the Hail Mary, we can deepen our comprehension of the essential events of the mission of the Son of God on earth, that we have passed down to us by the Gospel and by Tradition" (Ibid.)

In order that the synthesis of the Gospel might be more complete, the pope added another set of five mysteries to the long-standing 15 "joyful, sorrowful and glorious mysteries." He calls the new set the "mysteries of light." They cover the public life of Christ from his baptism in the Jordan to the beginning of his Passion. Inserted between the joyful and sorrowful mysteries, the new set of five are: 1) The Baptism at the Jordan; 2) The Marriage Feast at Cana; 3) The Proclamation of the Kingdom and Call to Conversion; 4) The Transfiguration and 5) The Institution of the Eucharist.

As one who prays the rosary frequently, at first I was surprised at the pope's announcement of the new set of the "mysteries of light." But having prayed them in sequence for more than two months now, I agree, clearly, they are a natural fit in contemplating the mysteries of the life of Christ.

Those who have read my columns over the years know that I had framed my own extra set of mysteries, because when I jogged (now walk) for an hour 15 mysteries weren't enough. I called my unofficial set the "priestly mysteries of Christ," i.e. Christ the Teacher, Christ the Healer, Christ the Prayer, Christ the Obedient One and Christ the Chaste Lover



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Mary his Mother."

And so, on his 24th anniversary he expressed this desire with two symbolic gestures. He signed an Apostolic Letter *Rosarium Virginis Mariae (the Rosary of the Virgin Mary)* and he named October 2002 to October 2003 as the "Year of the Rosary." While 2003 is still young, I want to highlight the Year of the Rosary in a genuine spirit with the Holy Father.

He asked, "For the rigorous but very rich work of contemplating the face of Christ along with Mary, is there a better way than praying the rosary? However, we need to rediscover the mystical depth of the Many." My walks are getting longer!

I don't believe there is a more practical way to contemplate the face of Christ than to pass events of his life before the eyes of the soul against the background of the Hail Mary.

It works, as the pope says, "to sit at the school of Mary" to learn Jesus—not just what he taught, but him. When the Mother is honored, the Son is known, loved and glorified.

By tradition, the rosary is a prayer for peace and for the family. What could be more timely? †

Archbishop Buechlein's intention for vocations for January

Parents: that they may remain faithful to their vocations and encourage their children to consider God's call to service in the Church, especially as priests and religious.

Buscando la Cara del Señor

Arzobispo Daniel M. Buechlein, O.S.B.

Rezando el rosario



ace poco alguien me envió una foto conmovedora del Papa Juan Pablo II tomada en agosto de 2002, al final de su visita a su tierra natal, Polonia. La foto muestra a un Santo Padre sentimental, dejando correr una lágrima al abordar su vuelo de Cracovia a Roma.

Pensé en la foto cuando leí la declaración que hizo al público en el aniversario número 24 de su elección: "Durante mi viaje más reciente a Polonia le recé a Nuestra Señora: 'Divina Madre... concédeme también la fortaleza en cuerpo y espíritu para culminar la misión que me ha sido encomendada por el Señor de las alturas. A ti te entrego todos los frutos de mi vida y mi servicio; a ti te encargo el futuro de la Iglesia... en ti confío y una vez más te reafirmo: Totus tuus, Maria! Totus tuus, (¡Todo tuyo, María! Todo tuyo!) Amén.' " (Tal vez usted reconozca estas palabras como el lema escogido por Juan Pablo II el día de su elección.)

El Santo Padre continuó, "Hoy repito las mismas palabras dándole gracias a Dios por mis 24 años de servicio a la Iglesia en el trono de Pedro. En este día tan especial pongo nuevamente en las manos de la Madre de Dios la vida de la Iglesia y las necesidades de la humanidad. A ella le encomiendo mi futuro. Lo pongo todo en sus manos para que con el amor de madre lo presente ante su Hijo 'para alabanza de su gloria' (Ef 1,12)." (Osservatore Romano, N.43 - 23 octubre 2002)

El Papa observó que al principio de este nuevo milenio, cuando exhortó a los creventes a que contemplaran sin cesar el rostro de Cristo "deseaba que para todos, la maestra de dicha contemplación fuera María, su Madre."

Y por lo tanto, en su 24º aniversario expresó su deseo a través de dos gestos simbólicos. Firmó una carta apostólica Rosarium Virginis Mariae (el rosario de la Virgen María) y proclamó el período de octubre de 2002 a octubre de 2003 como el "año del rosario." Ahora que el 2003 está aun en sus comienzos, quiero destacar el Año del rosario en comunión genuina con el Santo Padre. Preguntó: "para llevar a cabo la rigurosa pero muy enriquecedora tarea de contemplar el rostro de Cristo junto con María, ¿acaso existe una mejor manera que rezar el rosario? Sin embargo, necesitamos redescubrir la profundidad mística que encierra la sencillez de esta oración, tan venerada por la tradi-

ción popular. Esta oración mariana es, por encima de todo, en su estructura misma, una meditación sobre los misterios de la vida de Cristo. Repitiendo la invocación del Ave María, podemos ahondar en nuestra comprensión de los eventos fundamentales de la misión del Hijo de Dios en la Tierra, que nos han sido transmitidos a través del Evangelio y la tradición." (Ibid.)

Para hacer la síntesis del Evangelio aun más completa, el Papa añadió otro conjunto de cinco misterios a los tradicionales 15 "misterios gozosos, dolorosos y gloriosos." Él llama a este nuevo conjunto los "misterios luminosos." Comprenden la vida pública de Cristo desde su bautizo en el Jordán hasta el inicio de su Pasión. El nuevo grupo de cinco misterios se encuentran incorporados entre los misterios gozosos y dolorosos, y son: 1) El bautismo en el Jordán; 2) Las bodas de Caná; 3) El anuncio del Reino de Dios, invitando a la conversión; 4) La transfiguración; y 5) Institución de la Eucaristía.

Como alguien que reza el rosario frecuentemente, al principio me sorprendió el anuncio del Papa del nuevo conjunto de "misterios luminosos." Pero luego de haberlos rezado en secuencia durante ya más de dos meses, estoy de acuerdo; evidentemente constituyen una inclusión natural en la contemplación de los misterios de la vida de Cristo.

Aquellos de ustedes que han leído mi columna durante todos estos años saben que he creado mi propio conjunto adicional de misterios, ya que cuando trotaba (ahora camino), por una hora, 15 misterios no eran suficientes. Designé mi conjunto no oficial como los "misterios sacerdotales de Cristo", por ejemplo: Cristo maestro, Cristo sanador, Cristo devoto, Cristo el obediente y Cristo el amante casto de María." ¡Mis caminatas se han vuelto cada vez más

Letters to the Editor

Class warfare and abortion

I have discovered that the reason many people refuse to take a pro-life stance is class envy. For the last couple of generations, the pro-abortion political party has been using class envy to get votes. It proclaims itself as the party for the workingman and the poor, While the pro-life party is portrayed as the party of the fat cats-the greedy rich.

To so many people, voting pro-abortion is to vote for the good guys who are looking out for the poor and downtrodden, and to vote pro-life is to vote for the evil guys who help the fat cats take advantage of the poor and workingman. If their party is the good guys, they can't be the bad guys for taking a pro-abortion stand. Thus, many voters believe that it is true that abortion is wrong, but who are we to judge whether or not another person should be allowed to have an abortion? Doesn't our Church teach us that it is wrong to be judgmental?

All of our laws are meant to protect the life and property of others. It is no more judgmental to have a law protecting the life of the unborn than it is to have laws protecting the life of anyone else. It is, however, being judgmental to view a person as evil simply because they are rich. Wealth is an opportunity to do a lot of good in the world. Sainthood isn't just reserved for the poor and

Looking Around/Fr. William J. Byron, S.J.

working class. Saints live and die in all walks of life.

When Jesus said it is easier for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God than it is for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle, he was speaking to a society that believed to be blessed with wealth by God was a reward for their virtues and the poor were cursed with their poverty because of their sins. Jesus wasn't only pointing out how much possessions can distract us from God, he was also telling his followers that God neither curses the evildoer with poverty nor blesses the virtuous with wealth.

It was by envy that Satan fell from heaven. Satan used envy to tempt Eve to become like God, knowing good and evil. Class envy caused the spread of communism in places like Russia and China. In our own country, class envy is being used to get votes, keeping abortion legal. Knowing that, I don't know how to get through to people on the issue of abortion without sounding like I am antipoor and workingman and pro-rich. I am for everyone, rich and poor, but especially pro-life.

If you are a party loyalist, for the sake of all the little babies that are dying by abortion, please reconsider your loyalties. There is good and bad in both parties. The most horrendous thing going on in our time isn't the poor or unfair treatment of workers, it is abortion.

Sandra Dudley, Sunman

Putting mid-career derailments back on track

Ten years ago, I interviewed many men and women who were caught in the



wave of downsizing that hit the U.S. economy. Now it is happening again. As a New York Times headline put it last month, "White-Collar Jobless Losing Faith in the Future.'

In talking with managers in transition

from one job to another, I learned that a variety of principles operate as guidelines to help them make their way through "no-job land" to re-employment. Sometimes these principles function as "guardrails" to help keep the job search on track.

A Philadelphia banker, for example, took to heart advice given by a friend: "Don't make the same mistake I did;

don't waste time trying to get even.' Many guiding principles will be nega-

Most displaced workers conclude that it makes no sense to dwell on the past, but they have trouble getting rid of the anger. For some, the anger and resentment never completely disappear.

When Steven J. Ross, the controversial chairman of Time-Warner, died in 1993, a group of family, friends and associates paid for a full-page ad in The New York Times to reprint a poem attributed to Ralph Waldo Emerson that Ross "carried as his talisman":

- To laugh often and much;
- To win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children;
- To earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends;
- To appreciate beauty, to find the best in others;
- To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition;
- To know even one life has breathed easier because you lived.

largas!

Creo que no existe una manera más práctica de contemplar el rostro de Cristo que ver pasar ante los ojos del alma los eventos de su vida, teniendo como fondo el Ave María. Obra, como dice el Papa, como "sentarse en la escuela de María" a aprender de Jesús, no sólo sus enseñanzas, sino acerca de él. Cuando se honra a la Madre, se conoce, se ama y se glorifica al Hijo. Tradicionalmente, el rosario es una oración por la paz y la familia. ¿Qué otra estaría más a tono? †

Traducido por: Language Training Center, Indianapolis

La intención del Arzobispo Buechlein para vocaciones en enero:

Padres: Que ellos puedan permanecer fieles a su vocación y puedan alentar a sus hijos a considerar la llamada de Dios para servir en la iglesia, especialmente como sacerdotes y gente religiosa.

tive phrases stated for a positive pur-

pose. On a positive note, this same person told me he would advise others to "take time to understand who you are, not what you do." That principle is operative within his own family where, he reports, "the members are appreciated for who they are, not for individual achievements; we are not afraid of failure, nor do we hide from it.'

Many job seekers borrow principles articulated by others and hold them up for their own reflection. John Henry Newman's often-quoted reflection appeals to some: "In a higher world it is otherwise, but here below to live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often."

"These days," said one job seeker, "change is not something you manage, it's something you do."

Many transitioners adopt a principle "not to dwell on the past." Poet Samuel Hazo provides them with a rationale for this when he asks, "Can days of making sense of days that make no sense make sense?"

This is to have succeeded.

A talisman, your dictionary will remind you, is a special object, often engraved, thought to act as a charm. I didn't hear that word often, but I did hear "mantra" used to describe sayings that offered guidance for the advancement of a job campaign. One executive called them "keepers," sayings to be kept in mind and in the card file.

More often, I heard "words of wisdom" as a descriptive phrase for homemade or hijacked maxims that worked to help job seekers stay on target and remain serene throughout the search. Under each maxim lies a value. I'll list a few of those maxims in my next column.

Meanwhile, may those wilted white (or pink) collars put their wearers into a community of faith, hope and love with their blue-collar counterparts, who know a lot about solidarity and having faith, not "in the future" but in the God whose Providence will never let them down.

(Jesuit Father William J. Byron is a columnist for Catholic News Service.) †

Check It Out . . .

The second annual Indianapolis West Deanery Catholic Men's Conference, "A Catholic Approach to Living a Moral Life," will be held from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. on Feb. 8 at St. Monica Parish, 6131 N. Michigan Road, in Indianapolis. The conference will feature Sulpician Father Phil Keane, a moral theologian, as the keynote speaker. There will also be five discussion sessions. The cost is \$25 and includes lunch. For more information, call David Burkhard, conference chairman, at 317-241-6314, ext. 126, or e-mail dib@saintchristopherparish.org or log on to www.catholicmensconference.net

There will be an ecumenical celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at 7 p.m. on Jan. 24 at Northwood Christian Church, 4550 Central Ave., in Indianapolis. There will be fellowship at 8 p.m. Rev. Paul Crow, past president of the Disciples of Christ Council on Christian Unity, will share his experience in the ecumenical movement. The event is sponsored by the Disciples of Christ and the Focolare Movement. For more information, call Julie and John Mundell at 317-844-5918 or Rev. Kris Wratten at 317-283-1352.

Archbishop Daniel M. Buechlein has given permission for the Tridentine Latin Mass to be offered at St. Patrick Parish, 1807 Poplar St., in Terre Haute, on a trial basis each month. Father Norbert Kieferle, a retired priest, will offer the special Mass at 3 p.m. on Jan. 26, then on every fourth Sunday of the month after that. For more information, contact Msgr. Lawrence Moran, pastor of St. Patrick Parish, at 812-232-8518 or Mike Moroz at 812-466-5856.

There will be a memorial service for the victims of abortion from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Jan. 26 at the Indiana War Memorial, 431 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis. The event, sponsored by Right to Life of Indianapolis, will commemorate the lives of unborn babies that were denied the freedom and dignity of life through abortion since January 1973. Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, vicar general, will speak at the memorial service. Following the service, all are invited to participate in a prayerful walk around Monument Circle. The event is free. For more information, call Right to Life of Indianapolis at 317-582-1526.

Two Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends are scheduled in February and March. The weekends are powerful experiences for couples who believe that their marriage is a sign of love in a world that hungers for stability and commitment. The weekends are scheduled from Feb. 14-16 in Louisville, Ky., and from March 7-9 in Indianapolis. For more information, call the archdiocesan Office for Youth and Family Ministries at 317-236-1596 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1596.

There will be a candlelight Mass for married couples at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 8 at St. Patrick Parish, 1807 Poplar St., in Terre Haute. A reception will follow in the Parish Life Center. Couples from all Terre Haute deanery parishes are invited to attend. There is no cost, but reservations are

requested by Feb. 3. For more information or to make a reservation, call the Terre Haute Deanery Pastoral Center at 812-232-8400 or e-mail thdeanery@aol.com

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis, will host a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. prayer service at 4 p.m. on Jan. 19. Holy Cross Brother Roy Smith will discuss "The Many Types of Prophets" and the Archdiocesan Gospel Choir will sing hymns. For more information, call 317-236-1562.

St. Pius X Parish, 7200 Sarto Dr., in Indianapolis, is hosting "Sports and Spirituality: Keeping Sports in Perspective" at 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 23. F. Clark Power, University of Notre Dame psychology professor and associate director of the Center for Sports, Character and Community, will speak on keeping a healthy perspective on the demands that sports make on family time and resources. Coaches and parents of youth involved in school sports may find the presentation particularly worthwhile. For more information, call the parish office at 317-255-4534.

St. Peter Parish, 1207 East Road, in Brookville, is offering an afternoon of reflection titled "A Retreat with St. Peter" from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Feb. 2. The afternoon is a chance to pray and reflect on what St. Peter has brought to the Church and continues to bring to the people of God. For more information, call the parish office at 812-623-3670.

Rachel's Companions is a confidential, Catholic spiritual support group for those affected by abortion and in need of healing. For more information, call Servants of the Gospel of Life Sister Diane Carollo, director of the archdiocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities, at 800-382-9836, ext. 1521.

The archdiocesan Birthline ministry, coordinated by the Office of Pro-Life Activities, needs donations of maternity clothing, all types of baby clothing and accessories, cribs, strollers, car seats, playpens and infant formula. The Birthline ministry helps pregnant women in crisis and young mothers who have recently given birth and need assistance. Donations that are in good condition should be delivered to the Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., in Indianapolis. For more information, call Servants of the Gospel of Life Sister Diane Carollo, director of the archdiocesan pro-life office, at 317-236-1521 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1521.

Theology on Tap, a series of programs designed to help Catholics in their 20s and 30s understand the faith, will meet at 7 p.m. on certain Wednesdays at The Rathskeller, 401 E. Michigan St., in Indianapolis. On Jan. 29, Shawn Conway, founding chairman of Civitas Dei, will present "It's More than the Economy, Stupid! The Courage to be Catholic in the Marketplace." On Feb. 5, Gene Monterastelli from APEX Ministries in Washington, D.C., will present "How to Save the World and Retire." On

YOUR CHOICE FOR A SIMPLE, SACRED WAY



Feb. 12, Father Joseph Moriarty, vocations director for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, will present "We are Called-How Do We Know It Is from God?" For more information, call the Office of Young Adult Ministries at St. Luke Parish in Indianapolis at 317-259-4373.

Registration for the Oldenburg Academy "Class of 2007" will be held from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Feb. 15 and from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Feb. 16 in the classroom building, 1 Twister Circle, in Oldenburg. Course selection forms, which have been mailed to parents of current students, are due at the registration with a non-refundable tuition deposit of \$300 and a registration fee of \$50. Tuition assistance forms will also be available. For more information or to request tuition assistance information, call the school office at 812-934-4440. If your student has not taken the entrance test and you are interested in registering him or her, call the admissions office at 812-934-4440, ext. 231. †

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Office for Film and Broadcasting movie ratings

Antwone Fisher (Fox Searchlight) Rated A-III (Adults) because of some violence including depictions of child abuse, an implied sexual encounter and minimal rough language and profanity. Rated PG-13 (Parents are Strongly Cautioned) by the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA).

Drumline (20th Century Fox)

Rated A-II (Adults and Adolescents) because of a few sexual references and crass expressions. Rated PG-13 (Parents are Strongly Cautioned) by the MPAA.

The Hot Chick (Touchstone)

Rated O (Morally Offensive) because of a benign view of teen promiscuity, brief violence, drug references, racial and anti-Catholic slurs, homosexual activity and innuendo, brief rear nudity, gross body-fluid humor and constant crude language. Rated PG-13 (Parents are Strongly Cautioned) by the MPAA.

Just Married (20th Century Fox)

Rated A-III (Adults) because of a live-in relationship and many sexual references, some comically intended violence, occasional crude humor and minimal profanity. Rated PG-13 (Parents are Strongly Cautioned) by the MPAA.

25th Hour (Touchstone)

Rated A-IV (Adults, with Reservations) because of sporadic violence, a character's angry anti-Catholic remarks, crude sexual references and situations, and recurring rough language and profanities. Rated R (Restricted) by the MPAA. †



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Students in Aurora learn that Christmas doesn't end Christmas day

By Jennifer Lindberg

Although most people had already taken down their Christmas decorations, students at one Catholic school were still very much in the Christmas spirit.

Students at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception School in Aurora came back



St. Mary School students make Epiphany cards for nursing home residents as part of the retreat day.

after their Christmas break to sing Christmas carols, make Christmas projects and learn more about why Catholics celebrate Christmas nearly half way through January.

On the Church calendar, the Christmas season didn't officially end until after the feast of the Baptism of the Lord on Jan. 12.

"After Christmas Day, everybody doesn't celebrate it anymore," said eighthgrader Mary Kate Wilger. "It's good to keep the spirit of Christmas alive."

The students were given four projects on their return to school on Jan. 6 that celebrated Christmas. Each project had a song that went with it. The day was considered a "Christmas Retreat Day," said Principal Elaine Haas.

For example, the "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" project taught students the song, the meaning behind it and ended with a craft of making angels.

For "We Three Kings of Orient Are," students made Epiphany cards for nursing home residents. Other songs included "The Twelve Days of Christmas," and "O Christmas Tree."



Students at St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception School in Aurora perform a skit about the first Christmas during their retreat day after the long holiday break.

Haas said the school has been doing a retreat day for students for three years. Sometimes it's after Advent, but usually it's after the long Christmas break.

"It's a nice way to get back into school," she said. "The kids are tired and they end up enjoying the projects." The retreat day also paired older students with younger ones and ended with a prayer service at church.

"It's a lot of fun to help the [younger] kids and also a lot of fun to do stuff," said eighth-grader Patrick Birkholtz. "We get to keep celebrating." †

'Urban Plunge' immerses Notre Dame students in poverty

By Jennifer Lindberg

Helping those in need was the goal of seven University of Notre Dame students who visited various social service agencies in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis last week.

Called the "Urban Plunge," students visit a city for 48 hours to volunteer at homeless shelters, soup kitchens or jails.

"I've noticed that there is more need than I expected," said Tim Stawick, a freshman math major at the university.

Notre Dame started the experience 20 years ago to help students explore the problems in society that include poverty, homelessness and crime. Holy Cross Father Don McNeill developed the program to help students think about how they will incorporate Christian action and service into their professional work, regardless of their career.

Danielle Finley, a senior education and sociology major, said she wanted to see how poverty affects people.

After graduation, she'll be teaching in an inner-city school in Baltimore.

"I know a lot of the kids I will work with live in poverty. A lot of my students will be living this way," she said. "My eyes have been opened to how much more poverty there is than I thought."

Students also visited Holy Family Shelter in Indianapolis where they spent the night, helped residents and organized linen closets.

The experience also earns the students one college credit. It was sponsored by the Notre Dame Club of Indianapolis. †



Jonathan McCrea, a senior biology major at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind., helps serve food at the Cathedral Soup Kitchen in Indianapolis. He visited the soup kitchen as part of a service project through the university.

Church representatives hail Ryan for clearing Illinois death row

CHICAGO (CNS)—The Illinois Catholic Conference and a nationwide Catholic group that opposes the death penalty praised a decision by outgoing Illinois Gov.

George Ryan to

commute all the

state's death sen-

before he left

Just two days

office, Ryan com-

muted the death

sentences of the

Illinois' death row.

167 people on

All but three

tences.



Gov. George Ryan

received alternate sentences of life in prison without possibility of parole. The remaining three had their sentences commuted to 40-year terms.

A day earlier, Ryan issued pardons for four death row inmates who he said were wrongly convicted on the basis of coerced false confessions. The actions followed a three-year moratorium on executions in Illinois and the release last spring of a report detailing problems with how the death penalty is carried out in the state. Prior to Ryan's latest actions, 13 Illinois death row inmates had been exonerated in recent years.

Frank McNeirney, national coordinator of Catholics Against Capital Punishment,

said in a Jan. 11 statement that Ryan's "courageous action is in accordance with the best traditions of American jurisprudence."

McNeirney quoted Chief Justice William Rehnquist's comment in a 1993 case that "clemency is deeply rooted in our Anglo-American tradition of law and is the historic remedy for preventing miscarriages of justice where judicial process has been exhausted."

The members of Catholics Against Capital Punishment pray "that other U.S. governors will consider using their clemency powers to spotlight the most obvious flaws in this discredited system of punishment, and, in doing so, encourage legislators to abolish it completely," McNeirney said.

The Illinois Catholic Conference, which represents the state's bishops in public policy matters, said Ryan's action is consistent with Catholic principles of opposition to the death penalty.

"The death of the murderer cannot bring back the one who has been killed," said the Jan. 11 statement, "nor does revenge help to heal the hole in the heart of the grieving loved ones."

The statement said the death penalty cannot suppress "the inalienable dignity of those who have committed great evil." Although those who commit crimes

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CHURCH continued from page 1

cialty stores in Nashville.

Benedictine Sister Mildred Wannemuehler, parish life coordinator, said between 800 and 900 people attended four weekend Masses throughout the year, often with standing room only. From late May through October, the parish offers an outdoor Mass at the Nature Center in nearby Brown County State Park in addition to three liturgies at the church.

During weekend Masses, people seated in the chapel watch the videotaped Mass on a large screen above the original altar while Father William Stumpf, priest minister and moderator, celebrates the eucharistic liturgy in the crowded social hall. Pews in the chapel face north and metal folding chairs in the social hall are arranged facing a newer altar at the west end of the hall, so people are seated in two directions during liturgies.

The new \$1.8 million church, which seats 300 people and can be expanded to accommodate 400 people, will enable parishioners and guests to worship together in the same room.

"It's a very exciting time for St. Agnes Parish," Father Stumpf said. "We expect to be worshiping in the new church around Labor Day, depending on the weather and unforeseen construction delays. But it's also a bittersweet time because we have to leave a worship space that has been our parish home for over 60 years."

Eighty-two percent of St. Agnes parishioners supported the capital campaign, he said. Tourists from throughout the United States and three foreign countries also contributed about \$60,000 for the new church.

"I'm very pleased about how supportive our parishioners have been to the campaign and to the move, even though it's been difficult and painful for people," Father Stumpf said. "The fact that we had an 82 percent participation rate for the campaign says, I think, that by and large the majority of our people are behind the move and see it as a necessity that is important for the future of the parish. They realize that we need to leave a legacy for future generations."

The new parish property, a former horse farm named Stillpoint, is located on McLary Road less than a mile from St. Agnes Church. The wooded land on 20.6 acres just west of Nashville was purchased for \$460,000 in 1999 with funds raised in the archdiocesan Legacy of Hope from Generation to Generation capital and endowment campaign.

Sister Mildred said it was an answer to prayers when the Brown County Presbyterian Fellowship bought St. Agnes

Church last fall. "We're happy that people will still be worshiping in the church," Sister Mildred said. "We're really grateful that the church property was purchased by another Christian community."

Construction work began shortly after the groundbreaking ceremony on Sept. 22.

The Stillpoint property also includes a farmhouse, which is Sister Mildred's residence, as well as office space, a renovated cottage that is now the rectory, a summer kitchen for meetings and a horse barn with four stalls.

Parishioner Tom Tuley, who co-chaired the building campaign with parishioner Greg Harter, said St. Agnes Parish still needs to raise about \$50,000 to meet the capital campaign goal, but he is confident that "we'll go a little bit beyond that."

St. Agnes parishioners have been very generous, Tuley said. "A lot of people are making a real sacrifice, and are paying their pledges on a monthly basis."



The new church will be built with wood and Brown County stone, he said. A large multipurpose room in the basement will have movable walls for a variety of uses.

"We want the church to not only look like Brown County, but also to feel like Brown County," Tuley said. "After the architectural drawing was done, St. Bartholomew Parish in Columbus gave us a beautiful stained glass window chapel, Father Stumpf said, which will be built adjacent to the church and furnished with the original altar, pews and statues.

Future building plans include the con-

from the former St. Columba Church."

struction of an exact replica of the log

Fundraising for that project is currently underway, he said, which pleases many parishioners who will miss their old spiritual home. †

CONFESSION

continued from page 1

that they, as the front-line to God, cannot protect a child from further abuse."

Westrom noted that several states have similar legislation.

A publication on state child abuse and neglect reporting statutes by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services says the most widely recognized exemption from mandatory reporting laws is that given to the attorney-client privilege.

"The clergy-penitent privilege also is frequently recognized, although that privilege may be strictly limited to confessional communications, or in some cases, denied altogether," it says. According to the publication, Texas excludes even the attorney-client privilege. States that explicitly exclude all forms of professional-client privilege except attorney-client include New Hampshire, North Carolina, Rhode Island and West Virginia. Statutes of several other states make no reference to a clergy-penitent exemption.

The clergy-penitent privilege was not originally included in Kentucky's child abuse and neglect reporting law. Legislation to include the privilege was enacted in 1984—adopted 94-1 in the House and 36-0 in the Senate.

That legislation, initiated by the Catholic Conference of Kentucky and the Kentucky Council of Churches, was prompted by an incident involving a Kentucky priest who

DNR



discovered a case of child abuse and neglect.

After hearing of abuse, the priest began counseling the family and did not report the abuse to authorities. Police learned of the alleged abuse from a third party, and told the priest he could have been arrested for failing to report.

The faithful have depended on the seal of confession for centuries, Father Mark Spalding, judicial vicar of the Archdiocese of Louisville, told *The Record*, archdiocesan newspaper. "People rely on that as they enter into that experience [of confession], the absolute confidentiality that is found there."

Church law absolutely prohibits a priestconfessor from "betraying a penitent by word or in any other manner for any reason." A priest who betrays a penitent directly is automatically excommunicated and only the Holy See can lift the excommunication.

"I think this [bill] needs serious thought and reflection before any move is taken," Father Spalding said, noting that it raises First Amendment issues. "You're starting to interfere with church-state relations," he said.

"I can appreciate and respect the desire here of reporting," he added. "But I don't know if this is the way to go on this issue."

The Rev. Nancy Jo Kemper, executive director of the Kentucky Council of Churches, also underscored the importance of the distinction between casual conversation and information shared in a penitential situation.

Without that distinction, faith traditions that have penitential rites will have problems with the bill, she said.

But "there is also the problem that no child ever ought to have to suffer," she added.

Westrom, who serves on the House Health and Welfare Committee, said revelations of clergy sexual abuse of minors in the Catholic Church influenced her in introducing the bill.

"I think the time is right. We need to face the reality of what has gone on in our society for too long," she said. †

Benedictine Sister Mildred Wannemuehler, parish life coordinator, discusses building plans for the new St. Agnes Church with parishioner Tom Tuley of Nashville. Tuley cochaired the building campaign with parishioner Greg Harter of Columbus. Sister Mildred and Tuley also were helping with the parish's St. Vincent de Paul food distribution to the poor on Dec. 19.

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What should parents say to children about war?

By Mary Jo Pedersen

Talk of war surrounds us.

Seldom does news coverage on television, the Internet, radio or in the print media lack photographs or live coverage of matters related to war. Talk of war and reports on war are in our family rooms, our kitchens and even our bedrooms.

Like coverage of weekend sporting events, there is always talk of the "game plan" and "our chances of winning."

In conversations with parents, I often am asked, "When talk of war becomes a national pastime and support of war is a test of patriotism, what do we say to our children?"

There is no easy answer.

Whether you are in favor of war or not, I believe it is important to let children know that war is not the best way to settle disagreements.

A steady diet of photographic depictions of war is unhealthy for small children, and if we cheer the use of violence, we send a message to children who already have been introduced to violent games and toys, if not at home then at a friend's home or by television commercials.

Children will express fears and concerns about war, so parents do well to give some thought to how they will respond before the questions are upon them.

I'd like to offer a few suggestions gleaned from the observations of parents who have raised their children in the midst of intensive war coverage over the last two decades.

The first observation is that the ages of one's children will determine how much to explain to them about war.

But whatever the age of children in a household, parents can give them a realistic view of war by putting a family face on it. For example, explain to children that someone's dad, brother, son or daughter is in very great danger in the war. Talk about the human costs of war and pray daily for those involved in the war, on both sides, and for their families. Consider including a prayer for peace in family prayer time at meals or bedtime.

Second, when it comes to children of grade-school age, limiting the amount of television time spent watching war coverage is all to the good. Media and military reports have a tendency to glorify war.

I didn't want my children to buy into the glory part of war. Small children can get war video games mixed up in their minds with the real thing when the media shows bombing raids and successful target strategies.

Adults can keep informing ourselves about current talk of war and explain some of the realities of war that we understand well, such as how families lose their homes and their jobs in a war and often can't get food or medical care in war zones, to help children understand the seriousness of armed conflict.

A third observation encourages us to be careful how we talk about God's will when it comes to matters of war.

What message really is conveyed when we say such things as "God is on our side" or "God wanted Uncle Bill (who died in the war) to go to heaven"? people to live in peace. War is a last resort.

The fourth observation calls attention to the possibility of offering humanitarian support, if possible, for those involved in the war. This involves making some sacrifices at home in order to assist people whose lives are affected by war.

Part of the point here is to do something intentional for peace. This may mean seeking out ways to involve yourself and your family locally or nationally—in whatever ways are possible for you.

Families can send donations to charitable groups that help people living in the midst of war or contribute in other ways to humanitarian efforts during wartime. You know what is best for your family. But consider doing something positive for peace.

The fifth observation points up the value of teaching children how to resolve conflicts without violence. Children can learn that violence and war are not the only solutions to difficult issues. Show your children that hitting and physically hurting others do not solve problems or settle differences, but just create more problems and bigger differences.

It is possible, if we think things through, to teach our children how to negotiate and settle conflicts with their heads and with words rather than with violence.

The Parenting for Peace and Justice Network (Institute for Peace and Justice, 4144 Lindell, No. 408, St. Louis, MO 63108, <u>www.ipj-ppj.org</u>) has practical and helpful resources to help parents discuss war with their children.

(Mary Jo Pedersen is coordinator of the Leadership in Family Life Training Program for the Archdiocese of Omaha, Neb.) †



It is important to let children know that war is not the best way to settle disagreements.

What makes a war right or wr ong?

By Fr. W. Thomas Faucher

For 2,000 years, Catholicism has struggled with the role of war in the lives of the people of God.

Pope Julius II, in the early 16th century, is remembered for his support of art and military undertakings. Contrast that with the memory of Pope Paul VI standing at a massive lectern in the United Nations headquarters in New York and proclaiming, "War no more. War never again."

It could seem like a contradiction. The fact is that the Church in other cultural eras tried war and learned that it just is not right. This history helps to give the Church today something concrete and valuable to say about war.

After the fall of the Papal States in 1870, the Church, inspired by God, faced reality and began to whisper that war is wrong. With the courage that only comes from grace, that whisper became a speech then a proclamation.

The Church added that sometimes war, while still wrong, can be the lesser of two evils. There can be times when engaging in warfare can, reluctantly, be morally justified. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* carefully explains the rare conditions when this can happen.

The modern world does not like to listen to the Church

war, people often disregard his message of peace.

As the 21st century begins, many Catholics are listening to political and religious leaders, and trying to determine what course of action is truly the way of the Gospel.

Catholics do this by examining the political issues and studying the teachings of the Church. What is done by the government is done in the name of each citizen, and all share in the responsibility for those actions.

To be the Church in the modern world means to be critical-thinking Catholics who evaluate that world, ask difficult questions, search to find the God-inspired answers then act on those answers in the name of Jesus Christ.

What makes a war right or wrong, moral or immoral, good or bad? What personal criteria do you have by which to judge that the death of a son, daughter, brother or sister in a war would be acceptable? For what would he or she have died? What is a just war? What is an unjust war? Are foreign soldiers and citizens worth less than American soldiers and citizens? Would you personally go off to fight in a war? Why or why not?

(Father W. Thomas Faucher is pastor of St. Mary Church

God did not create war. People did. God surely wills

on this subject. When Pope John Paul II speaks against

in Boise, Idaho.) †

Discussion Point

War should be last resort

This Week's Question

What lessons about war would you most like to communicate to the world?

"War is the last resort to settling differences between countries. War may be a necessary evil, but all war is evil. Nothing good ever emanates from war. People grieve lost ones, homes and territory are destroyed [and] money is diverted from good causes to bad ones. Show me where Jesus advocated war, and I will follow." (Tim Bridgman, Anchorage, Alaska)

"Sadly, that children have to fight our wars for us. Children should only know peace." (Ann Porter-Smith, Colorado Springs, Colo.)

"Dear Mr. President: I'm sorry, my boys are not

allowed to go to war. Not only do I not want their immortal souls endangered by their taking of another life, I do not want the soul of an opposing soldier endangered by his taking of lives, too." (Connie West, Reno, Nev.)

"Peaceful negotiations should be exhausted at all costs first, because once war breaks out all we have is mass tragedy and death." (Bob Sugrue, Louisville, Ky.)

Lend Us Your Voice

An upcoming edition asks: Name some essential first steps toward healing a "rift" at home.

To respond for possible publication, write to *Faith Alive!* at 3211 Fourth St. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20017-1100. †



Perspectives

From the Editor Emeritus/John F. Fink Important events: New Testament accepted

Twelfth in a series

The 12th of my 50 most important events in Catholic history is Athanasius'



recognition of the New Testament canon in 367. Although the Catholic Church believes that the Bible is the inspired word of God, the Church itself is not based on the Bible. This is an impor-

tant point to understand because some Christian religions insist that they are Bible-based. But Christianity cannot be based on the Bible because Christianity preceded the Bible. Furthermore, it was the Christian Church that decided what writings were to make up the Bible.

Christianity began as an oral religion, with stories about Jesus being passed along by word of mouth. As the Apostles and the first Christian missionaries like Paul and Barnabas established new Christian communities, they kept in touch with them by writing letters. Recipients kept some of those letters. Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians, the oldest document in the New Testament, was written around the year 50.

Still, for about 40 years, from the time of Jesus' resurrection around the year 30 until Mark's Gospel appeared around the year 70, the main way that people learned about Jesus was orally. As the Church spread, the life of Jesus had to be interpreted for different audiences. For Jews, the important thing was to prove that Jesus was the fulfillment of the Scriptures. For gentiles, missionaries had to explain how Jesus applied to them.

By the year 70, though, people who had actually seen Jesus and told stories about him were dying. The Christian community thought it important to preserve the stories, so they started writing them down.

Quite a few people wrote stories about Jesus—so many, in fact, that the Church had to decide which of the many writings told the story of Jesus the way the Church wanted it to be told. Some popular early writings were rejected. Among them were gospels with names like the Gospel of Peter, the Gospel According to the Hebrews, the Infancy Gospel of Thomas and the Protoevangelium of James.

The Church didn't make an official decision about the canon of the Bible until the Council of Trent in the 16th century. Long before that, though, the choice of which writings were to be included was well established.

The first lists began to appear in the second century and there was considerable controversy over them. Criteria were established to decide which writings to include: They must convey apostolic teachings, a specific community thought enough of the documents to preserve them, and they had to portray Jesus in a way that was acceptable to the majority of Christians.

Although his wasn't the first list (Origen published one), Athanasius published his list of the 27 books that now comprise the New Testament in 367. Because of his prominence in the Church, this list was generally accepted. The regional Council of Cathage accepted the list in 397. By this time, Augustine was Bishop of Hippo and he, too, accepted Athanasius' list. It has remained the approved canon ever since. †

Cornucopia/Cynthia Dewes **Look who the Hound of Heaven just found**

If ever I find myself cast away on a tropical isle with only one person, I know who



I'll want it to be. Not Tom Hanks, although that would be yummy, nor even my lifelong beloved. No, it would be Frank, because he's a survivor.

I've known Frank all my life. Our mothers were friends before we were born.

We lost contact for many years after our moms died, so I was surprised when he tracked me down three states and several moves away.

"You'll never guess who this is!" he cried triumphantly when he finally rang the correct phone number.

He was right. I didn't know who it was. But, ever since that pleasant surprise, Frank's called me about once a year. We talk for at least an hour reminiscing, checking out who's died or gone senile, and comparing our multiplying prescriptions.

Although we started out in the same place, our lives before our reconnection were certainly different. Frank's family was dysfunctional before the term was invented. He was the oldest boy, second child, in a family of nine kids. His parents were poor, nothing remarkable during the Depression, but they were so poor that they got food baskets and old clothes from the church.

The dad beat up on the mom now and then, so the mom took her revenge on the kids. Although she was a wonderful cook, they'd lock up the cupboards after each meager meal. The children never got quite enough to eat, except when my family was invited to dinner or when we invited them to our house.

Frank's mother was also a superb needlewoman. Instead of spending any time or money on her house or her kids, she made beautiful things for the church bazaars. The dad earned a decent wage when he worked as a machinist, but somehow there was never enough money and his frustration sometimes ended in a beating for one of the children, usually Frank.

Frank's parents were always very good to me, so I didn't realize until later how wretched his home life was. Meanwhile, he was a troublemaker at school and one of the "dumb" kids who flunked a grade or two. He left school before graduating from high school and went into the Army.

Later, Frank became a long distance truck driver. He drank too much, womanized and had his share of bar fights. He's been married three times and has children, some of whom will not speak to him.

Today, Frank's life is more peaceful. He and his current wife live happily on his veteran's pension and Social Security in the woods of northern Minnesota. There he can enjoy some of his passions, such as hunting, fishing and picking off "wild dogs" (wolves) who invade his yard.

Another of Frank's passions is fuming at what he considers wooly-brained environmentalists, most politicians and many of his doctors. He is an iconoclast and a patriot who values common sense, honesty and the Golden Rule.

When Frank tells me tales about his life, I'm delighted by who he's become. He was always intelligent, funny and insightful, if not well educated, but besides all that he's come to be responsible for his own actions and grateful for God's gifts. He's a person who knows how to live and, when the time comes, how to die.

I'm always amazed at who the Hound of Heaven tracks down for our edification. On one hand, we have Mother Teresa and people like her. And on the other, there's Frank.

(Cynthia Dewes, a member of St. Paul the Apostle Parish in Greencastle, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.) †

Stories, Good News, Fire/ *Fr. Joe Folzenlogen, S.J.*

Second round of Disciples in Mission will start in March

Parishes throughout the archdiocese are starting their prayer campaigns, hold-



ing their sign-up Sundays, training small-group leaders and taking the other steps necessary to launch the second round of the Disciples in Mission process on March 2. In addition, eight new parishes will begin the first

year of their participation.

Last fall, Disciples in Mission parish team members who gathered for continuing formation sessions expressed satisfaction and enthusiasm about their first year's experience. They did voice concern about keeping the process fresh and vibrant the second time around. The principal resource for this effort is the highly positive experience of parishioners who participated last year.

The Lenten sharing activities were consistently rated as one of the most powerful elements of the Disciples in Mission process. Of course, the primary benefit was the opportunity to become more familiar with the Scriptures through reading, reflection, prayer and sharing. Since the readings used were those for the Lenten Sundays, many people reported that their participation in weekly Eucharist was enhanced because of the advance preparation.

Another advantage of the Lenten sharing activities was the experience of community. People deepened relationships with old friends, and they also met new people and got to know casual acquaintances better. Some people were initially apprehensive about small-group sharing, but once they got into the experience they discovered they really liked it and came out wanting to do more of it.

People also appreciated the variety of the Disciples in Mission materials for families, teen-agers, and language and cultural groups. Parishes also offered a variety of time, places and formats to make the process as available as possible.

Participants also liked the way that Disciples in Mission promoted action as well as talk. Each week, the Scripture reflection materials included suggested actions, and the following week there was an opportunity for participants to report on what they had done.

The major action thrust of the Disciples in Mission process gains focus and momentum through the reflection/planning day.

Several parishes have identified out-

Faithful Lines/Shirley Vogler Meister A good place for sports in our cultur e

While reading to my 29-month-old grandson, Sam interjected cute little com-



mentaries to the stories and pictures. At one point when viewing someone blowing a whistle, he told me, "The man blows the whistle and they run over there"—and he pointed to the right— "then the man blows the whistle and they

run over there"—and he pointed to the left.

I finally realized he was describing a football game he and his father had watched together. Sam reduced the game to basics, a view that reflects my own: men blowing whistles and other men running around. I don't understand the game well, and I'm not a football fan, but some day Sam probably will be.

Soon the Super Bowl will be played. My husband keeps up with sports, including football, in an interested but not obsessive way, but neither he nor I will be glued to the TV set like millions of other viewers. However, after all is said and done, Paul will know what's what, whereas I won't.

Our older grandson, David, a college freshman, will surely watch the Super Bowl, although his main interests are soccer and baseball, both of which he's played since the age of 5, making the varsity soccer team in high school. Paul and I happily supported his efforts as much as possible, driving 125 miles to attend games.

We believe sports are character-building, physically-strengthening and integral to many students' lives; but there have been times during our own daughters' 12 Catholic school years that we feared sports received more attention than the educational curriculum. One time years ago, parents challenged the system so that more funding could also go into other appropriate areas. Now school-related activities are certainly much more balanced.

Recently, there's been some flack about Catholic schools' winning football teams coming from elite circumstances. If truth be known, most parents with children in Catholic schools scrimp, save and tighten belts in order to provide such excellent education and sports opportunities. They also pay taxes to support public schools and they volunteer untold time to their schools' extracurricular activities, including sports. More important, they stress family participation in their children's activities.

Not all children are comfortable playing sports. Some students have talents in other areas, such as scholarship, the arts or manual dexterity. With continued encouragement and training, these talents will serve them and their communities well when they're adults.

However, most cultures do incorporate sports into their lives. I hope they all encourage children to be well-grounded, well-rounded—and spiritual—individuals, too. Catholic schools are doing that, and Paul and I are grateful for our three daughters' Catholic sports-enhanced education.

(Shirley Vogler Meister, a member of Christ the King Parish in Indianapolis, is a regular columnist for The Criterion.) † reach to inactive Catholics as a priority, and the training day on Catholics Returning Home last November was one response to that.

There was a strong desire to do more with small groups. In addition to individual parish initiatives, there will be a seminar on small communities of faith on Feb. 22 at the Jonathan Byrd Cafeteria in Greenwood.

Helping adults get to know their faith better and get more comfortable sharing it was another area identified for growth. The Diocesan Adult Catechetical Team has this item on its agenda for planning programs and resources.

If you were involved in Disciples in Mission last year, be sure to sign up again and invite a friend to join you. If you did not participate last year, please consider becoming involved in the process this year. There are a lot of satisfied customers who can testify to the blessings they received in terms of faith, community and mission.

(Jesuit Father Joe Folzenlogen is evangelization coordinator for the archdiocese.) † Second Sunday in Ordinary Time/Msgr. Owen F. Campion

The Sunday Readings

Sunday, Jan. 19, 2003

- 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19
- 1 Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20
- John 1:35-42

The First Book of Samuel provides the first reading for this weekend.



The two books of Samuel, originally one volume until editors separated the book into two parts, look far back into the history of God's people. They speak of very early prophets and of figures that literally

together as one nation.

Samuel is the principal person in this reading. The reading is self-explanatory. Samuel is asleep and hears a voice. He assumes that the voice is that of Eli, a companion who is sleeping nearby, but it is not Eli.

Rather, it is the voice of God. Eli realizes that the voice is that of God. He instructs the young Samuel to reply. Samuel's response is that he is listening. He is ready to hear the words, and the command, of God.

This reading concerns itself with Samuel. However, it is a situation much like events experienced by other prophets. Each was called. God commissioned each prophet to reveal the divine plan to God's people. No prophet assumed the position of his own initiative.

St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians is the source of the second reading.

When the Apostle Paul wrote this epistle, Corinth was one of the principal cities in the Mediterranean world. It is estimated to have had at the time a population of 200,000 persons. By the standards of that time and place, it would have been a metropolis.

Also, it was a major commercial center, astride the trade routes east to west. Like many such cities over history, and in different parts of the world, Corinth was a center of lust and immorality. In fact, it was dedicated to Aphrodite, the goddess of love, whose great temple loomed on a high hill overlooking the city.

Paul had to call the Christian

My Journey to God

This I Believe

Corinthians away from this immorality. He insisted upon the majesty of the human body. He preached that traffic in lust and immorality defiles the body. He also stressed that dedication to

Christ is everything for the believer. For the third reading, the Church pre-

sents St. John's Gospel. In this reading, John the Baptist

salutes Jesus as the "Lamb of God." It is a highly theological term. Coming from the holy prophet, John the Baptist, it identifies Jesus. This identification serves as a prelude to the rest of the reading.

As the reading proceeds, Jesus notices that two of John's disciples are following. One of them was Andrew. After being in the Lord's company, Andrew sought his own brother, Simon, who came with him to Jesus.

Jesus received Simon, and the Lord gave Simon a new name, "Cephas," or Peter.

Reflection

The Church has joyfully and confidently presented us with images of Jesus in the past month. First, on Christmas, the Church proclaimed to us the birth of Jesus as the son of Mary.

On the feast of the Epiphany, the Church continued its story. Jesus is the Son of God. He is God among us. The star directs wise men, earnestly seeking God, to the newborn Savior in Bethlehem.

Evil, personified in Herod, the scheming, self-serving King of Judea, is a threat. But God prevails against this evil. The infant is not harmed. The wise men reach their destination and fulfill their hopes.

With the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, the Church told us through the Scriptures that Jesus had assumed our sins. He reconciles us with God. He stands in our behalf.

This weekend, the Church tells us that Jesus did not come and go. God reaches to us, offering us the gift of salvation in the Lord. Speaking to us for Jesus, and redeeming in the name and with the divine power of Jesus, are the Apostles. Peter was chief among them.

From this event, in which Jesus admitted the brothers Andrew and Simon to the company of the disciples, calling them to be Apostles, the Church that lives here and now grew. †

Daily Readings

Monday, Jan. 20 Fabian, pope and martyr Sebastian, martyr Hebrews 5:1-10 Psalm 110:1-4 Mark 2:18-22

Tuesday, Jan. 21 Agnes, virgin and martyr Hebrews 6:10-20 Psalm 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c Mark 2:23-28

Wednesday, Jan. 22 Vincent, deacon and martyr Hebrews 7:1-3, 15-17 Psalm 110:1-4 Mark 3:1-6

Thursday, Jan. 23 Hebrews 7:25-8:6 Psalm 40:7-10, 17 Mark 3:7-12

Question Corner/*Fr. John Dietzen*

Gospels relate relevant events of Jesus' ministry

The Gospels record the life of Jesus from birth to death, at age 33.



However, the time from age 12 to 30 is omitted. Why is this? What happened during these years? (Texas)

The answer is Abasically simple. The Gospels were not written to hand down

a biography of Jesus, but to give us the good news of God's love and infinite care for our human family, as revealed in the life and teachings of Jesus.

The very first words of the first Gospel written indicate this intention. St. Mark, in Chapter 1, Verse 1, of the Gospel with his name, says, "The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

The Anglo-Saxon roots of our English word "gospel" mean the same as the Latin and Greek words for "gospel," literally the "good news." Only some time after St. Mark wrote was the title "Gospel" given to the first four books of the New Testament.

In other words, those first words refer not to the book he was writing, but to the Friday, Jan. 24 Francis de Sales, bishop and doctor of the Church Hebrews 8:6-13 Psalm 85:8, 10-14 Mark 3:13-19

Saturday, Jan. 25

The Conversion of Paul, Apostle Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22 Psalm 117:1-2 Mark 16:15-18

Sunday, Jan. 26 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 25:4-9 1 *Corinthians* 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20

do, in fact, carry some message that the evangelists considered fruitful and important for their Christian readers.

The more we read and study the narratives of the conception and birth of Jesus and John the Baptist, for example, the more we realize these are not solely tender and warm baby stories. Every word and phrase reveals their own special insight and wisdom about what the Father and Son were saying about salvation through these commonplace family events.

Some other early Christian writings, the second-century Proto-evangelium (first Gospel) of James, for example, contain a variety of quaint and whimsical stories about the life of Jesus and his relatives. Some of them may be true, but they are not part of our sacred Scriptures and, of course, not a matter of faith.

Where can we send used Christmas Qcards? Many are too beautiful to throw away, but some religious houses and agencies who used to want them no longer do so. (Ohio)

I've mentioned St. Jude's Ranch for AChildren in this column before. It is a facility for neglected, abused and troubled children. I understand that it welcomes not only Christmas cards but other appropriate greeting cards as well. Their address is 100 St. Jude's St., Boulder City, NV 89005.



- Lord, You have called me into Your Presence.
- May goodness and gladness pervade my soul.

Immerse us all in holy reverence. May grace light a path to our final goal.

- Cleanse Your sinful children of pain and loss.
- Send angels to guide us through earthly strife.
- Bless the valiant who sway beneath their cross
- And by so doing earn immortal life.

Each soul, though damaged, is a living flame

- That sears each being with Your sacred name.
- Not one will You lose, God, nor one destroy,
- But call them home, healed, to eternal joy.



In truth, when doom seems our fitting reward

Your mercy triumphs over justice, Lord.

By Anna-Margaret O'Sullivan

(Anna-Margaret O'Sullivan is a member of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Franklin.) †

good news of the salvation God offered, and would continue to offer, to human beings in the life, death and resurrection of his Son.

In all the Gospels, therefore, it is clearly not the writers' purpose to answer curiosity questions or to pass on merely interesting information. What was not directly relevant to our comprehending the meaning of the life and message of Jesus was simply passed over.

This is the reason we know absolutely nothing about most of the years of Jesus' life on earth from the Gospels themselves. We can assume a few things, for instance, that Joseph died sometime during the years in Nazareth, since he isn't mentioned during the final three years or so of Jesus' life. But that's as far as we can go.

This lack of engaging information may sometimes disappoint us, but there's a marvelous good side to appreciate. It means that all the little asides scattered through the Gospels, the apparently insignificant details that seem incidental,

What is the difference between for-Qgiveness and absolution? The way the words are used often in the sacrament of penance it seems they are two different things. (Iowa)

Forgiveness and absolution are com-Amonly used interchangeably, but there are different nuances. Absolution usually denotes a more formal action of setting one free from guilt or obligation.

Someone may be said, for example, to be absolved from a financial debt. Remission of sin in the sacrament of penance by a religious authority (priest) is another example.

To forgive commonly denotes a less formal, perhaps personal, transaction. It involves giving up resentment or at least a willingness to forego revenge against one who has offended another. †

The Active List

The Criterion welcomes announcements of archdiocesan Church and parish open-to-the-public activities for "The Active List." Please be brief-listing date, location, event, sponsor, cost and time. Include a phone number for verification. No announcements will be taken by telephone. Notices must be in our office by 10 a.m. Monday the week of (Friday) publication: The Criterion, The Active List, 1400 N. Meridian St. (hand deliver), P.O. Box 1717, Indianapolis, IN 46206 (mail); 317-236-1593 (fax), mklein@archindy.org (e-mail).

January 17

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, Blessed Sacrament Chapel, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Civitas Dei, Mass, 6:30 a.m.; breakfast, Indianapolis Athletic Club, 350 N. Meridian St., \$20, first-time guest \$10. Information: 317-767-2775 or e-mail civitasdei indv@ CatholicExchange.com

Marian College, St. Francis Hall Chapel, 3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. Catholic Charismatic Renewal, prayer meeting, 7-8:30 p.m. Information: 317-927-6900.

January 17-19

Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Healing Retreat, "Blessed Grieving: When a Loved One Dies," Father Paul Koetter and Dr. Margie Pike, presenters, \$135/individual, \$255/married couple. Information: 317-545-7681 or e-mail fatima@archindy.org

January 18

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, cafeteria, 1752 Scheller Lane, New Albany. Madonna Circle, spaghetti supper, 4:30-7 p.m., tickets available at the door. Information: 812-948-9126.

St. Gabriel Parish, loft, 5505 Bardstown Road, Louisville, Ky. Catholic Single Adults Club, party, 8-10:30 p.m. Information: 812-284-4349.

January 19

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration, "The Many Types of Prophets," speaker, Holy Cross Brother Roy Smith, 4 p.m.

Mary's King's Village Schoenstatt, Rexville (located on 925 South, .8 mile east of 421 South, 12 miles south of Versailles. "Covenant Sunday Holy Hour," 2:30 p.m., Mass,

3:30 p.m. with Father Elmer Burwinkel. Information: 812-689-3551 or e-mail eburwink@seidata.com or log on to Schoenstatt Web site at www.seidata.com/~eburwink

January 20

St. Matthew Parish, 4100 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Young Widowed Group meeting, Lawless Room, 7:30 p.m., The Hope Group, Providence Room, 8 p.m.

January 24-26

Saint Meinrad Archabbey and School of Theology, 200 Hill Dr., St. Meinrad. "Lectio Divina: Praying with Scripture,' Benedictine Father Brendan Moss, presenter. Information: www.saintmeinrad.edu

Mount St. Francis Retreat Center, 101 St. Anthony Dr., Mount St. Francis. Retreat for men and women, "Journeying with Jesus Christ," \$95 per person. Information: 812-923-8817 or e-mail mtstfran@cris.com

Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Retrouvaille weekend for couples with troubled marriages. Information: 317-545-7681 or e-mail fatima@archindy.org

January 25

St. Bartholomew Parish, 845 Eighth St., Columbus. "Developing and Nurturing Leaders," 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., \$20 per person. includes lunch. Information: 317-236-1586 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1586.

January 26

Indiana War Memorial, 431 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, Michigan Street entrance. Right to Life of Indianapolis memorial service for victims of abortion, Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, vicar general, keynote speaker, 2-3 p.m., all ages welcome.

Nativity Parish, Weilhammer Hall, 7225 Southeastern Ave. Indianapolis. Knights of Columbus Council, family breakfast, 8-11 a.m., \$4 adult, \$2 children under 12.

St. Patrick Church, 1807 Poplar St., Terre Haute. Tridentine Mass, 3 p.m. Information: 812-232-8518

January 27

Archbishop Edward T. O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. "Divorce and Beyond" program, six weeks, 7-9 p.m., \$30. Information: 317-236-1586 or 800-382-9836, ext. 1586.

Daily

Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Chapel, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. Perpetual adoration

Holy Rosary Church, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. Tridentine (Latin) Mass, Mon.-Fri., noon; Wed., Fri., 5:45 p.m. Information: 317-636-4478.

St. Joan of Arc Parish, 4217 Central Ave., Indianapolis. Leave a telephone number to be contacted by a member of the prayer group. Prayer line: 317-767-9479.

St. Therese of the Infant Jesus (Little Flower) Parish, Chapel, 4720 E. 13th St., Indianapolis. Perpetual adoration. Information: 317-357-3546.

St. Thomas More Church, 1200 N. Indiana St., Mooresville. Perpetual adoration.

Weekly

Sundays

Holy Rosary Church, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. Tridentine Mass, 9:30 a.m. Information: 317-636-4478. St. Rita Church, 1733 Dr.

Andrew J. Brown Ave., Indiana**polis**. Mass in Vietnamese, 2 p.m.

Christ the King Church, 1827 Kessler Blvd., E. Dr., Indianapolis. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 7:30-9 p.m., rosary for world peace, 8 p.m.

St. Gabriel Church, 6000 W. 34th St., Indianapolis. Spanish Mass, 5 p.m.

523 S. Merrill St., Fortville.

Mondays

St. Thomas the Apostle Church,

Rosary, 7:30 p.m.

Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Chapel, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. Prayer group, 7:30 p.m.

St. Roch Church, 3600 S. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis. Holy hour, 7 p.m.

Marian Center, 3356 W. 30th St., Indianapolis. Prayer group, prayers for priests and religious, 9 a.m. Information: 317-257-2569.

Cordiafonte House of Prayer, 3650 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Monday silent prayer group, 7 p.m. Information: 317-543-0154.

Tuesdays

St. Joseph Church, 2605 St. Joe Road W., Sellersburg. Shepherds of Christ rosary, prayers after 7 p.m. Mass.

Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Madonna Hall, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. Video series of Father Corapi, 7 p.m. Information: 317-535-2360.

Holy Name Parish, 89 N. 17th St., Beech Grove. Prayer group, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

St. Joan of Arc Parish, 4217 Central Ave., Indianapolis. Bible sharing, 7 p.m. Information: 317-283-5508.

St. Luke Church, 7575 Holliday Dr. E., Indianapolis. Marian Movement of Priests prayer cenacle, Mass, 7-8 p.m. Information: 317-842-5580.

Holy Spirit Church, 7243 E. 10th St., Indianapolis. Bible study, Gospel of John, 7-8:30 p.m. Information: 317-353-9404.

Cordiafonte House of Prayer, 3650 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Tuesday silent prayer hour, 7 p.m. Information: 317-543-0154.

Wednesdays

Divine Mercy Chapel, 3354 W. 30th St. (behind St. Michael Church), Indianapolis. Marian prayers for priests, 3-4 p.m. Information: 317-271-8016.

Our Lady of the Greenwood Parish, Chapel, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy, 7 p.m.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 5692 Central Ave., Indianapolis. Marian Movement of Priests prayer cenacle for laity, 1 p.m. Information: 317-253-1678.

Holy Rosary Church, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, between Masses, noon-5:45 p.m. Information: 317-636-4478.

SS. Francis and Clare Church, 5901 Olive Branch Road. Greenwood. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7 a.m.-9 p.m., rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet, 11 a.m. Information: 317-859-HOPE.

St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Chapel, 46th and Illinois streets, Indianapolis. Prayer service for peace, 6:30-7:15 p.m.

Thursdays

St. Lawrence Chapel, 6944 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mass.

Our Lady of the Greenwood Chapel, 335 S. Meridian St., Greenwood. Faith Sharing Group, 7:30-9 p.m. Information: 317-856-7442.

St. Mary Church, 415 E. Eighth St., New Albany. Shepherds of Christ prayers for lay and religious vocations, 7 p.m.

St. Malachy Church, 326 N. Green St., Brownsburg. Liturgy of the Hours, 7 p.m. Information: 317-852-3195.

Christ the King Chapel, 1827 Kessler Blvd., E. Dr., Indianapolis. Marian prayers for priests, 5:30-6:30 a.m.

Fatima Knights of Columbus, 1040 N. Post Road, Indianapolis. Euchre, 7 p.m. Information: 317-638-8416.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish, Parish Hall, 1125 S. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Adult religious education, 7:30 p.m. Information: 317-638-5551

Cordiafonte House of Prayer, 3650 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Thursday silent prayer group, 9:30 a.m. Information: 317-543-0154

Fridays

St. Susanna Church, 1210 E. Main St., Plainfield, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

St. Lawrence Parish, Chapel, 6944 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Benediction and Mass.

St. Lawrence Church, 6944 E. 46th St., Indianapolis. Spanish prayer group and conversation, 7-9 p.m. Information: 317-546-4065.

Saturdays

Clinic for Women (abortion clinic), 3606 W. 16th St., Indianapolis. Pro-life rosary, 9:30 a.m.

Holy Rosary Church, 520 Stevens St., Indianapolis. Tridentine Mass, 9 a.m.

St. Patrick Church, 950 Prospect St., Indianapolis. Mass in English, 4 p.m.

St. Joseph Church, 2605 St. Joe -See ACTIVE LIST, page 13

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HOSPITAL continued from page 3

first steps inside the brightly decorated building, we believe the children will experience less anxiety and be more relaxed about entering a hospital."

Indiana first lady Judy O'Bannon, who participated in the groundbreaking ceremony 18 months ago, said she is happy to be a part of this "wonderful, exciting, hopeful day."

When ground was broken for the hospital, she said, "I had no idea what lay ahead. You have done amazing things since I've seen you last here, and I don't mean just bricks and mortar. I've experienced what you've done to heal lives and to grow people.

"I feel with great confidence that I can say I'm speaking for the community that you have been a blessing to our place on Earth," O'Bannon said. "You have changed lives and healed them, and that's what a community is about. We don't live isolated. We live together because we know when we live together, and we live together under God, we do better. It's in caring for the little ones that we ensure a future for this planet that God has created."

Mary Ann Scott, executive director of St. Vincent Children's Hospital, said the new facility is "so obviously a hospital that was designed specifically for children and

their families.

"This facility will allow us to provide family-centered care, hope and healing in a new and bright environment," Scott said. "We recognize that children need to be treated with dignity and respect. We know that children are not just little people with problems, but children with very unique situations. It was with these thoughts in mind that St. Vincent Children's Hospital was designed. From the first time we put pencil to paper until today ... as we prepare to open St. Vincent's newest health care ministry, we've always focused on the children.

"We also know that any hospital is more than just a building," she said. "It's our staff that truly is the heart of this hospital. We are very blessed with a group of professionals who have dedicated their work life to the compassionate care of children. We know that we've assembled the best staff available. That goes beyond just the pediatric staff that will have the privilege of practicing within these walls. There are literally hundreds of associates in every department of this hospital who help us every day to care for children."

"But really our biggest blessing is the children themselves," she said, "who have always been our inspiration and will continue to inspire our work every day. It is to them that we pledge the very best of care and that we dedicate this building to."

Daughter of Charity Sister Sharon Richardt, vice president of mission



Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, vicar general, (right) blesses the new St. Vincent Children's Hospital in Indianapolis following a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Jan. 9 at St. Vincent Hospital's West 86th Street location. Dr. Harry Laws, administrator of the new pediatric hospital, (left) carries the bowl of holy water as Daughter of Charity sisters and guests follow them down the hallway.

services for St. Vincent Hospital, said the St. Vincent Hospital logo, which features three doves, stands for St. Vincent's holistic approach to health care-healing of the body, mind and spirit.

"That is the promise of St. Vincent Children's Hospital to the children and families in Indiana," Sister Sharon said. "But the mission and ministry would never be possible without a highly competent and dedicated staff. I am thankful to all of you who provide the medical care and

support services that will make St. Vincent Children's Hospital truly a very special place of healing."

Before he blessed the hospital, Msgr. Joseph F. Schaedel, vicar general, said "the St. Vincent family is an important part of the life of our Church here in central and southern Indiana.'

Catholic hospitals are places where "God's work is done," Msgr. Schaedel said, and "the healing ministry of Jesus" is evident in our lives. †

> INDIANAPOLIS BEECH GROVE MOORESVILLE

The Active List, continued from page 12

Road W., Sellersburg. "Be Not Afraid" holy hour, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Monthly

Third Sundays

Christ the King Church, 1827 Kessler Blvd., E. Dr., Indianapolis. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 2 p.m.-7 a.m. (Monday), rosary, 8 p.m. Open until midnight.

Third Mondays

St. Matthew Parish, 4100 E. 56th St., Indianapolis. Young Widowed Group (by archdiocesan Office for Youth and Family Ministries), 7:30 p.m. Child-care available. Information: 317-236-1586

Third Wednesdays

Holy Name Church, 89 N. 17th Ave., Beech Grove. Holy hour and rosary, 6 p.m. Information: 317-784-5454

St. Jude Church, 5353 McFarland Road, Indianapolis. Rosary, 6:15 p.m. Information: 317-783-1445.

Archbishop O'Meara Catholic Center, 1400 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis. Catholic Widowed Organization, 7-9:30 p.m. Information: 317-784-1102.

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Photo by Mary Ann Wyan

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CARE

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Calvary Mausoleum Chapel, 435 Troy Ave., Indianapolis. Mass, 2 p.m.

Third Thursdays Our Lady of Peace Mausoleum Chapel, 9001 Haverstick Road, Indianapolis. Mass, 2 p.m.

St. Elizabeth's, 2500 Churchman Ave., Indianapolis. Daughters of Isabella, Madonna Circle meeting, noon, dessert and beverages served. Information: 317-849-5840

St. Joseph Church, 1375 S. Mickley Ave., Indianapolis. Adoration of Blessed Sacrament, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., Mass, 5:45 p.m. Information: 317-244-9002.

Third Fridays

St. Francis Hall Chapel, Marian College, 3200 Cold Spring Road, Indianapolis. Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Central Indiana, Mass and healing service, 7 p.m. †

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Please submit in writing to our office by 10 a.m. Mon. the week of publication; be sure to state date of death. Obituaries of archdiocesan priests and religious sisters serving our archdiocese are listed elsewhere in *The Criterion*. Order priests and brothers are included here, unless they are natives of the archdiocese or have other connections to it.

BAKER, Rita, 83, St. Mary, Lanesville, Jan. 1. Mother of Vicki Kemp, Donn and Paul Baker. Grandmother of six. Great-grandmother of two.

BEARD, Patricia A., 50, St. Bartholomew, Columbus, Dec. 25. Wife of Ronald J. Beard. Mother of Bridget Brandt. Sister of Jackie Howe, Paulette Nesbit, Barbara Smith, Gloria Stillabower and John Smith.

BLECHL, James J., 67, St. Jude, Indianapolis, Jan. 1 Husband of Patricia (Luft) Blechl. Father of Kay and Paul Blechl. Brother of Wilma Kalous, Gerald, Gilbert and Frank Blechl Jr. Grandfather of one

CARTER, Bobby L., 61, Sacred Heart, Indianapolis, Jan. 8. Husband of Carmen (Aguilar) Carter. Father of Theresa Carter, Sharon Drennon. Bobbie Hummel and Pamela Moyers. Brother of Shirley Coomer, Arvine, Dwight and James Carter. Grandfather of eight.

FASBINDER, Nicholas F., Jr., 64, Holy Family, Oldenburg,

Jan. 6. Father of Brenda and Nicholas Fasbinder III. Brother of Barbara Ertel, Jo Ann Waters, Beth, Bill and Pat Fasbinder. Grandfather of three.

FELLER, Eugene William, 51, St. Joseph, St. Leon, Dec. 23. Brother of Carl Feller.

HENDRICKSON, Margaret G. (Crowe), 76, St. Jude, Indianapolis, Dec. 29. Wife of James R. Hendrickson. Mother of Kathy, Edward and Michael Hendrickson. Grandmother of nine. Great-grandmother of 10.

HENZE, Mildred, 79, St. Paul, Tell City, Dec. 24. Mother of Nola Eades, Mary Kay Fendel and Daniel Henze. Sister of Francis Rinaldi and Esther Zaggi. Grandmother of seven. Great-grandmother of nine.

HOLTMAN, Paul, 77, Sacred Heart, Jeffersonville, Dec. 14. Father of Donna Lecher, Anita Spoekler, Chris, Greg, Jan and Mark Holtman. Brother of Helen Esterle Laverne Herde Eugene and Richard Holtman. Grandfather of 16.

JOHNSON-VERHAGEN,

Patricia J. (Breza), 49, St. Joan of Arc, Indianapolis, Dec. 22. Mother of Bryan and Kyle Johnson, Andrew and Steven Verhagen. Daughter of Gloria Breza. Sister of Kathleen Cassoday, Michael and Timothy Breza

KESTERSON, Florence (Graf), 103, St. Jude, Indianapolis, Jan. 1. Mother of Providence Sister James Michael Kesterson and John Kesterson. Grandmother of 15.

Great-grandmother of 30. Great-great-grandmother of five.

MARRA, Edward, 83, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Terre Haute, Dec. 31. Brother of Raymond Marra

MAXWELL, Theresa (Pelkey), 55, St. Lawrence, Indianapolis, Dec. 30. Mother of Laurie Maxwell. Daughter of Mary (Thompson) Pelkey. Sister of Leonard Pelkey. Grandmother of three.

MITCHELL, Catherine M., 95, St. Paul, Tell City, Dec. 31. Aunt of several.

MOLLAUN, Jean, 76, St. Louis, Batesville, Jan. 8. Mother of Toni Townsend, Terrence, Tobias and Trent Mollaun. Sister of Betty Walke. Grandmother of seven.

O'NEILL, Thomas C., 105, St. Margaret Mary, Terre Haute, Dec. 21. Husband of Mabel O'Neill.

PLUCKEBAUM, Bernice V., 94, Christ the King, Indianapolis, Dec. 30. Mother of John and Roger Pluckebaum. Grandmother of six. Great-grandmother of 11.

POPP, Mary Margaret, 88, St. Paul, Tell City, Dec. 31.

REUTER, Justin Dennis, 83, St. Andrew the Apostle, Indianapolis, Jan. 2. Husband of Mary L. (Bergstresser) Reuter. Father of Theresa Ervin, Mia Daily, Christine Stumpf, Gregory, Justin, Michael and Phillip Reuter. Grandfather of 24. Great-grandfather of seven.

SCHUMACKER, Anna M., 86, St. Louis, Batesville, Jan. 4. Mother of Patricia Doll, Mary Ann Rennekamp, Carol Schneider and Joseph Schumacker. Grandmother of 17. Great-grandmother of 12.

SHEA, Kimberly A., (Chapman), 45, St. Mark, Indianapolis, Jan. 2. Wife of Joseph F. Shea Jr. Mother of Benjamin Chapman and Kathleen, Melanie, Christopher and Patrick Shea. Daughter of Bea Madrid Chapman. Sister of Claire and Lisa McCabe

SHIPTON, Michael H., 45, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, New Albany, Dec. 22. Father of Rachel and Ryan Shipton. Son of Dorothy Shipton. Brother of Cathy Beach, Mary Lump, Holly Moreau, Bill, David and Marc Shipton.

SMITH, George William, 80, St. Luke, Indianapolis, Dec. 25. Husband of Marilyn (Walker) Smith. Father of Carolyn Keller and Janice Ollis. Brother of Mary Kay Bullock, David and J. Patrick Smith. Grandfather of six.

SPAHR, Mary Lou, 70, St. Ambrose, Seymour, Dec. 30. Wife of Chester Spahr. Mother of Teresa Robbins, Tracy and Anthony Spahr. Sister of Rita Allen, Marvin and Richard Amos. Grandmother of five.

SPRIGLER, Roy M., 61, St. Mary-of-the-Knobs, Floyds Knobs, Dec. 27. Husband of Beverly Jordan. Father of Shelly Hupp, Dustin, Jeff, Matt and Russ Sprigler. Brother of Sylvia Kruer, Priscilla Meek, Joanie Ruff, Annie Schindler, Chris, Danny, Joe, Meinrad and Simon Sprigler. Grandfather of seven.

THOMAS, Daniel Ray, 52, St. Augustine, Jeffersonville, Dec. 16. Father of Dana Rae Thomas and Robert Potter. Son of Benedict and Mary Lou Thomas. Brother of Donald, Kenneth and Ronald Thomas. Grandfather of two.

TOWNSEND, Barbara Rose, 70, St. Anthony of Padua, Clarksville, Dec. 10. Mother of Lisa Roberts and Scott Townsend. Sister of Johanna Cundiff. Grandmother of three.

UHL, Severus "Bid," 95, St. Michael, Bradford, Jan. 5. Father of Mary Jane Book, Mildred Rueger, Bill, Bob, Fred, Harlan, Jerry, Jim, Maurice, Sam and Tony Uhl. Brother of Bill Uhl. Grandfather of 30. Great-grandfather of 30.

WISSEL, Damien, 43, St. Anthony of Padua, Morris, Dec. 25. Father of Sarah and

Brett Wissel. Son of Elvera Wissel. Brother of Monica Hooten, Sheila Kieffer, Alyssa, Matthew and Nathan Wissel.

WITTMER, Walter P., 82, St. Paul, Tell City, Dec. 12. Husband of Alice (Arnold) Wittmer. Father of Tonya Hafele and Sheila Hargis. Brother of Marie Stockrahm. Grandfather of four. Greatgrandfather of one.

Franciscan Sister Annella Roberts taught in grade schools for 59 years

A Mass of Christian Burial for Franciscan Sister Annella Roberts, 86, was celebrated on Jan. 8 at the motherhouse chapel of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis of Oldenburg. She died on Jan. 6.

The former Emily Marie Roberts was born in Rome, Ky. She entered the Oldenburg Franciscan community in 1931 and professed final vows in 1938

Sister Annella served as a teacher for 59 years. In the archdiocese, she taught at Little Flower School, St. Christopher School and

Franciscan Sister Thomas More Holthaus taught school for 52 years

Franciscan Sister Thomas More Holthaus died on Jan. 7. She was 85.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Jan. 9 at the motherhouse chapel of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Third Order of St. Francis at Oldenburg.

The former Marie Agnes Theresa Holthaus was born in St. Bernard, Ohio. She entered the Oldenburg Franciscan community in 1934 and professed final vows in 1940.

Sister Thomas More taught school for 52 years. In the

archdiocese, she taught at St. Lawrence School in Lawrenceburg, St. Michael School in Brookville, St. Mark School in Indianapolis, St. Mary School in Aurora and St. Vincent de Paul School in Bedford.

She also taught at Catholic schools in Ohio and Missouri. In 1989, Sister Thomas More retired to the mother-

house at Oldenburg. She is survived by three sis-

ters, Vera Kemen, Grace Rauch and Carmelita Taylor, all of Cincinnati, Ohio. †

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WUENSCH, Jo Ann, 68, St. Luke, Indianapolis, Dec. 5.

Wife of Ronald Wuensch.

Mayo, Gina Meriwether,

Great-grandmother of one.

ZUPAN, Joe, Sr., 85, Holy

Husband of Mary Zupan.

Father of Shirley Brown,

Marybelle Hines, Sherrie

Trinity, Indianapolis, Dec. 20.

Christopher and Jeffrey

Mother of Ronna Felber, Cheryl

Wuensch. Grandmother of nine.

Indianapolis, and at St. Gabriel School in Connersville. She also taught at St. Anthony School in Evans-

ville, Ind., in the Evansville Diocese, and in Dayton, Ohio, where she was named "Teacher of the Year" in 1992. She also was a teacher at Catholic schools in New Mexico and Missouri.

In 1993, Sister Annella retired to the motherhouse at Oldenburg.

She is survived by a sister, Camelia Ann Werner of Leesburg, Fla. †

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Rosary time

Michael Hamilton, 4, prays the rosary with his parents, Peter and Susan Hamilton, during a holy hour at Holy Spirit Church in Penfield, N.Y., on Jan. 11. About eight families gather for the hour once a week at the parish in the Diocese of Rochester. Pope John Paul II, in announcing the Year of the Rosary to last through October, encouraged families especially to recite the rosary.

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ILLINOIS

deserve punishment, "the door to repen-

tance, forgiveness and rehabilitation must

always remain open. The opportunity for

redemption must always remain avail-

continued from page 7

CHA cautions against tax cuts that could hurt domestic programs

WASHINGTON (CNS)-The head of the Catholic Health Association of the United States has cautioned President Bush and the new 108th Congress against implementing broad tax cuts, saying these new proposals could hurt domestic programs, including health care. "The respective economic stimulus packages proposed by the president and congressional Democrats could preclude adequate funding of health care expansion priorities, as well as impede just funding of Medicare and Medicaid," said Father Michael Place, CHA president and chief executive officer. On Jan. 7, Bush announced his \$674 billion economic stimulus plan that would include a package of tax cuts and incentives to eliminate all federal taxes on stock dividends, provide quick tax relief for married couples, and grant a \$400-perchild increase in tax credit for families with children. Democrats proposed an alternative tax-cutting plan that would expand unemployment benefits by 26 weeks and give all workers an income tax rebate of up to \$300 per person or \$600 per working couple.

Researchers surprised when studying abuse experiences of nuns

WASHINGTON (CNS)-U.S. Catholic nuns as a group appear to have suffered less sexual abuse than the general American female population, but most of the abuse they have faced as nuns has come from priests or other nuns, says an in-depth national study conducted in 1996. The study, which just recently gained national attention, found nuns have

ing incoming Gov. Rod Blagojevich to continue the moratorium on new capital sentences and offering a prayer that Ryan's action will lead to healing.

Blagojevich, a Democrat, called the commutations a "big mistake" before his Jan. 13 inauguration. However, he said he plans to keep the moratorium on executions in effect for the time being for any new death sentences handed down. †

Former Illinois death

daughter, Latonya, as

he talks with the media

outside the gates of the

Cook County Jail in

Chicago on Jan. 10.

others sitting on the

granted pardons by

Rvan following his

state's death row were

outgoing Gov. George

unprecedented review

of capital punishment.

Orange and three

row inmate Leroy

Orange hugs his

experienced far less adult sexual harassment, exploitation or abuse from fellow Church professionals than was reportedly experienced in separate studies on harassment of female rabbis and of female Methodist ministers in their professional settings. It also found that nuns reported far less sexual abuse as children than was reported by most female groups in other U.S. child abuse studies. The researchers said this was a surprise because they thought they might find that a young woman's choice of a life of consecrated virginity could have a significant component of sexual revulsion or fear sparked by a negative childhood sexual experience. Researchers at St. Louis University in St. Louis conducted the study through a written 15-page questionnaire sent to 2,500 sisters in 123 religious orders that agreed to participate.

WORLD

New Vatican envoy to **Russia says he hopes** relations will normalize

MOSCOW (CNS)-The new Vatican envoy to the world's largest Orthodox country arrived at a time when local Catholic leaders are detecting the faintest signs of a thaw with the Russian Orthodox Church. In short remarks in Russian to journalists waiting at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport on Jan. 11, Archbishop Antonio Mennini said he hoped that "relations between the Holy See and the Russian Federation will develop in the spirit of mutual trust and cooperation." Since the resumption of formal diplomatic relations in 1990 after a break of 187 years, ties between the Vatican and Russian governments have

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Baptism

Pope John Paul II smiles at the family of Vincenzo and Ilde Morgante of Sicily as the parents hold their triplets during a baptism at the Vatican on Jan. 12. The ceremony is an annual tradition instituted by the pontiff to celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

Celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day The Children's Museum of Indianapolis Free admission Monday, Jan. 20.

Museum admission will be **FREE** in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. The museum will feature activities, music and displays designed to celebrate diversity. Please join us in a celebration of this champion of civil rights.

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Amazing Music Studio Opens Feb. 1

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Opens Feb. 22

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